

NCCU NOW

A photograph of a woman with dark dreadlocks, wearing a white t-shirt and a stethoscope, leaning over a young child. She is using the stethoscope to listen to the child's chest. The child is wearing a green and yellow striped shirt. The background is slightly out of focus, showing some outdoor items like a cardboard box and a bag.

FALL 2012

A MAGAZINE FOR THE FACULTY, ALUMNI AND
FRIENDS OF NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY

SERVING THE COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD

STUDENTS FIND WAYS
TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

PH.D. PROGRAM IS
OFF AND RUNNING

THE CHAUTAUQUA LEGACY

DR. LEROY T. WALKER
REMEMBERED

THE NELMS ERA:
TRANSFORMING NCCU

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HE INSPIRED OTHERS TO ACHIEVE

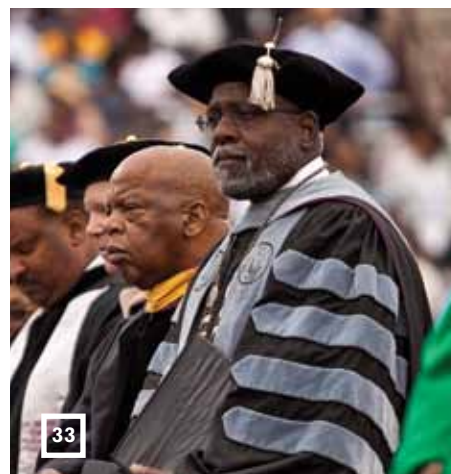
Dr. LeRoy T. Walker, remembered
as educator, chancellor and coach



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THE NELMS ERA: TRANSFORMING NCCU

The legacy of Charlie Nelms



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ON THE COVER Nursing student Farrah Latortue treats a Haitian boy at a rural clinic during the 2012 spring break. She was one of eight senior nursing majors who traveled to Haiti in March to provide medical care in a series of clinics in mountain villages.

Photo courtesy of Linda Vanhook.

FROM THE CHANCELLOR



Dear Alumni and Friends:

I am honored beyond your imaginings to be at North Carolina Central University. Former Chancellor Charlie Nelms was an extraordinary leader who served this institution ably and well for five years. He was intense and purposeful in his quest to make student success the university's No. 1 priority. [See "The Nelms Era" on page 35]

When I began as interim chancellor on Aug. 6, I scheduled a series of conversations with the university's leadership team. These meetings were followed by move-in weekend for first-year students on Aug. 11 and 12. Just three days later, we held a University Conference for all faculty and staff with the theme, "Ensuring Student Success: Individual and Collective Commitment." The morning

session was appropriately led by student leaders Sheree Williamson, president of the Graduate Student Association, and Reginald McCrimmon, president of the Student Government Association.

In dialogues I have had with members of the NCCU community, I have described my role as being that of a tugboat, pulling this great ship called NCCU. This vessel has been well manned and "womaned." My job is to continue steering this ship to new, exhilarating ports. I'm excited to report that we've already pulled into several new "ports" in the past few months and have numerous accomplishments to celebrate, including the following:

- We awarded more than 900 bachelor's, master's and law degrees during commencement exercises on May 11 and 12.
- We received more than \$8.6 million in grants and funding for initiatives including STEM education, health disparities and undergraduate research in the sciences.
- We enrolled a record-setting number of first-year students in the class of 2016 — more than 1,450 new Eagles.
- We moved up from 39th place to 26th place on Washington Monthly's annual list of master's-level universities, and we remain in the top tier of public HBCUs in U.S. News & World Report's 2013 list.

Over the coming months, I will echo what I laid out in my State of the University Address at Fall Convocation on Sept. 21: NCCU is on the right course. Thanks to the administrators, faculty and staff, we are weathering the rough seas. Our compass needle never wavers. It always points to "Truth and Service." As we reflect on the past and plot a course for the future, let us always remember, and live, the wonderful phrase (indeed, the Eagles' maxim) often voiced by former Chancellor LeRoy T. Walker: "Excellence without excuse!"

Please join me as we help our students on their journey toward success.

Sincerely,

Charles L. Becton
Interim Chancellor

NCCU NOW

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NCCU NOW magazine is published by North Carolina Central University Office of Public Relations, 1801 Fayetteville Street, Durham, NC 27707. Phone: 919-530-6295 E-mail: publicrelations@nccu.edu Please send address corrections to the Alumni Relations Office, 2223 Fayetteville Street, Durham, NC 27707.

Persons or corporations interested in purchasing advertising space in the NCCU NOW magazine should contact Ayana D. Hernandez, director of Public Relations, ahernandez@NCCU.EDU.

At a cost of \$1.37 each, 13,000 copies of this public document were printed for a total of \$17,384.91 in Fall 2012.

NCCU is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award baccalaureate, master's, education specialist and doctoral degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of NCCU.

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First lady Michelle Obama urges an enthusiastic crowd of students and community members to register and vote in a campaign appearance September 19 at McDougald–McLendon Gymnasium.

NIH RENEWS HEALTH DISPARITIES GRANT WITH 5-YEAR, \$5.7 MILLION EXTENSION



Photo courtesy of Ivan Watkins

North Carolina Central University's Julius L. Chambers Biomedical/ Biotechnology Research Institute (BBRI) has received a National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities Exploratory Center of Excellence grant for \$5.7 million. Originally funded in 2002, this is a five-year competitive renewal of the longest-funded National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant at BBRI.

Research involving health disparities — the gaps between the health status of racial and ethnic minorities compared with the population as a whole — is explicitly part of BBRI's mission, and the projects funded by the NIH grant all focus

“WE REALLY WANTED TO COMBINE EXPERTISE FROM THE VARIOUS DISCIPLINES TO MAKE SURE THAT OUR RESEARCH CONCLUSIONS CAN BE DIRECTLY APPLIED IN NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITIES.”

— MILDRED A. POINTER

on cardio-metabolic diseases that disproportionately affect African-Americans.

The projects will be administered by the newly named Center for Translational Health Equality Research (CTHER), led by K. Sean Kimbro, Ph.D., director of BBRI, and Mildred A. Pointer, Ph.D., FAHA, associate professor. CTHER consists of four key projects:

Adiponectin in Cardio-metabolic

Health Disparities: Sujoy Ghosh, Ph.D., senior scientist, will lead an investigation of the role of adiponectin, a substance that helps the body regulate insulin, in health disparities. Low levels of adiponectin are associated with diabetes and obesity.

Calcium in Metabolic Syndrome:

Emmanuel Awumey, Ph.D., assistant professor and research scientist, and Mildred Pointer, Ph.D., FAHA, both in the Cardio-Metabolic Research Program at BBRI, will lead an investigation of the role of calcium in diabetes, hypertension and obesity. This project will combine laboratory and community approaches, conducted by the Community Engagement group, to gain a better understanding of the role of calcium in these diseases.

Training and Education:

Saundra DeLauder, Ph.D., associate professor of chemistry, will direct a project to support minority students in health disparities research. The aims are to recruit and increase the number of future health disparities researchers from the fields of biomedical sciences, nursing, psychology, and public health education.

Community Engagement:

Natasha Greene Leathers, Ph.D., RN, FNP, BC, assistant professor of nursing, will oversee community-based culturally sensitive interventions aimed at helping African-American communities in Halifax County, N.C., and surrounding counties to adopt healthy behaviors. This project will develop a partnership between a rural population and academic researchers to evaluate and refine a family-focused intervention for African-Americans with Type 2 Diabetes.

“For the renewal of this grant, we targeted diseases that profoundly impact minority communities,” BBRI director Kimbro said. “With an investment of approximately \$5 million over five years, the National Institutes of Health and the scientific community have given a strong statement of support and confidence in our research.”

Pointer emphasized the translational aspect of the projects — finding ways to use the research to directly improve health outcomes. “We really wanted to combine expertise from the various disciplines to make sure that our research conclusions can be directly applied in North Carolina communities,” she said. “This ‘bench-to-curbside’ philosophy is at the heart of CThER.”

Harmony Cross

Miss NCCU Among the Winners in Ebony’s “Campus Queens” Competition

Harmony Cross, the reigning Miss North Carolina Central University, was one of 10 winners of Ebony magazine’s HBCU Campus Queens competition, featured in its September issue. The 10 queens, each representing a historically black college or university, were chosen by EBONY.com visitors, who cast more than 1.8 million votes for the queen of their choice.

A senior majoring in public administration, Cross, 21, is from Syracuse, N.Y. She and the other winners were treated to a weekend of pampering by Ebony’s “glam squads” that included a session with celebrity hair stylist Oscar James. A photo shoot followed, samples of which appeared in the magazine.

“The Campus Queen journey was memorable,” Cross said. “The opportunity to meet nine other beautiful young women at HBCUs was the best part of the experience. I was surrounded by positive, driven, intelligent African-American women who kept me in high energy for the entire weekend.”

Cross is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and participates in the university honors program. She said she was proud to represent NCCU, “the institution that has helped shape me into the woman I am today. Since freshman year, I have grown personally and professionally.”



“

The opportunity to meet nine other beautiful young women at HBCUs was the best part of the experience. I was surrounded by positive, driven, intelligent African-American women who kept me in high energy for the entire weekend.

”



JENNIFER SCHUM

Jennifer Schum

Associate Dean at University College

Dr. Jennifer Schum is the new associate dean of University College. She comes to NCCU from Meredith College in Raleigh, where she served as associate director of academic and career planning. Before that, she worked at Bellarmine University in Louisville, Ky., coordinating a campus-wide advising program and training faculty members to teach the first-year experience course.

Schum earned her bachelor's degree from James Madison University, her master's in clinical psychology from Spaulding University and a second master's and doctorate from the University of Louisville.



DEHAVALYN BLACK

Dehavalyn Black

Assistant Dean at School of Business

Dehavalyn Black has been named assistant dean for strategic initiatives at the NCCU School of Business. She comes to NCCU from Bennett College in Greensboro, where she was director of strategic initiatives and special assistant to the president.

Previously, she held management positions at LORD Corp. in Cary, N.C., and at American Express. She earned an MBA from Wake Forest University's Babcock Graduate School of Management and dual Bachelor of Science degrees — one in chemical engineering and the other in pulp and paper science and technology — from North Carolina State University.

Phyllis Craig-Taylor

Returns to NCCU as Law School Dean

Phyllis Craig-Taylor took office as dean of the NCCU School of Law on July 1. Craig-Taylor, a law professor at NCCU from 2000 to 2006, most recently served as associate dean for academics at Charlotte School of Law in Charlotte.

Craig-Taylor has more than two decades of experience in legal education and administration. She has served on the faculty of the University of Florida College of Law, the University of San Francisco School of Law and the University of Warsaw College of Law in Poland. Her areas of teaching include property, real-estate finance, advanced issues in poverty, land use, land loss, women and the law, and professional responsibility.

"The appointment of Craig-Taylor signifies a continuation of the school's mission to create a challenging educational program that will produce competent and responsible members of the legal profession," former Chancellor Charlie Nelms said.

Through her involvement with the American Bar Association, Craig-Taylor has held leadership positions in the Section of Litigation, including serving as a division director. She has served on the

N.C. State Bar Ethics Committee and the N.C. Bar Association Minorities in the Profession Committee.

"The law school has long been noted for its focus on public service and on meeting the needs of people and communities that are underserved by the legal profession," said NCCU Provost and Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs Debbie Thomas. "We are confident that Dean Craig-Taylor will continue this commitment."

Craig-Taylor has published numerous articles on land loss in the African-American community and discrimination in the application of laws for minority groups, including women. She is currently writing a book, "Open Door Days on the Last Plantation: An Analysis of Property Loss, Race and Citizenship."

A graduate of the University of Alabama Tuscaloosa, where she completed both her undergraduate degree and law degree, she later served as a partner in the law firm of England & Bivens and as a judicial clerk for the Alabama Supreme Court. She also holds a Master of Laws degree at Columbia University.

Craig-Taylor succeeds Raymond C. Pierce, who was dean of the School of Law since 2005 and has returned to private practice.



"The law school has long been noted for its focus on public service and on meeting the needs of people and communities that are underserved by the legal profession."

— **DEBBIE THOMAS**, NCCU Provost and Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs

Timothy R. Bellamy

Former Greensboro Police Chief
Named Director of Public Safety

Timothy R. Bellamy, former chief of police in Greensboro, was sworn in on April 16 as director of public safety at NCCU. A 27-year veteran of the Greensboro Police Department, Bellamy retired in 2010 after three years as chief. He joined the department in 1983 as a patrol officer and worked in a wide range of supervisory, investigative and administrative positions. He was assistant chief from 2003 to 2006 and interim chief for a year before being named chief in 2007.

"We're pleased to have someone with such outstanding qualifications and reputation," former Chancellor Charlie Nelms said. He also praised retiring Chief Willie Williams for his "exemplary service and leadership" as head of the department for the past five-and-a-half years.

"I look forward to many years of working with all of you on this campus," Bellamy said. "We will work hard to keep NCCU a safe and secure place for students to learn and teachers to teach."

A native of Whiteville, N.C., Bellamy is a graduate of Elizabeth City State University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice. He also holds a master's degree in liberal studies from UNC-Greensboro.

The NCCU Police Department that Bellamy now leads has 56 employees, including 26 sworn officers, 14 security officers and four telecommunications workers.



TIMOTHY BELLAMY



VANESSA TAYLOR



DAVID HINTON

Vanessa Taylor

Head Women's Basketball Coach

Vanessa Taylor, longtime coach at Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, was named head women's basketball coach at NCCU in April.

Taylor was head coach at Johnson C. Smith for 11 seasons and, before that, head coach at Elizabeth City State University for seven seasons. During that time, her teams posted 13 consecutive winning seasons, including six campaigns with 20-plus victories. She was selected as the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association Coach of the Year in 1998, 2000 and 2011.

"We have selected a true winner to lead our women's basketball program, said Ingrid Wicker-McCree, NCCU director of athletics. "Coach Taylor is a genuine person who is passionate, empathetic, charismatic and very successful in the field of developing young women to become scholars, winners and leaders."

David Hinton

Head Golf Coach

NCCU alumnus and certified golf teaching professional David Hinton III has been appointed head coach of the men's golf program.

A native of Raleigh, Hinton is a certified teaching professional by the U.S. Golf Teachers Federation and a Certified Golf Instructor and Coach with The First Tee Organization. A 1991 graduate of NCCU, he holds a bachelor's degree in public administration.

For the past seven years, Hinton has worked as a coach and community outreach coordinator with The First Tee of the Triangle. During that time he also served as the program director and coach at Next Level Sports Management Co. in Raleigh and as the junior golf program director with Saint Augustine's College.



APRIL
17-19
2013

NCCU HEALTH DISPARITIES CONFERENCE

Pursuing Health Equity Through Translational Research and Partnerships
Durham Convention Center | www.nccu.edu/healthdisparities

North Carolina Central University | Division of Research and Economic Development



Shepard Paper Digitized

NCCU's entire collection of historical documents about the life and work of James E. Shepard, founder of the university and advocate for African-American higher education, is being digitized and made freely available online for scholars and the public to access and use.

Items of particular interest in the collection include Shepard's correspondence with W.E.B. DuBois, Gordon B. Hancock, John Hope Franklin and Frank Porter Graham, and a series of Shepard's speeches dealing with race relations, education, discrimination, and African-American Masonic and fraternal organizations.

"The papers of Dr. Shepard reflect institution-building by African-Americans as they confronted racial barriers in the Jim Crow South," said André D. Vann, coordinator of university archives and instructor of public history at NCCU. "These historical documents also demonstrate Dr. Shepard's significance as a leader in higher education and as a spokesman and advocate for African-Americans in

Durham, the state and the country. The online availability of these materials will help historians craft new narratives and will open new avenues of inquiry on North Carolina's African-American leaders and higher education for African-Americans in the early 20th century."

Shepard and his associates chartered the institution now known as NCCU in 1909 (the name for the first few years was the National Religious Training School and Chautauqua for the Colored Race, Inc.) and opened it to students in 1910. He remained president until his death in 1947.

The digitization effort is part of a three-year grant-supported project, "Content, Context, and Capacity: A Collaborative Large Scale Digitization Project on the Long Civil Rights Movement in North Carolina." It is a collaboration among the Triangle Research Libraries Network's libraries at NCCU, Duke, N.C. State University and UNC-Chapel Hill and is administered

by the University Library at UNC-CH. The four university libraries will ultimately digitize 400,000 pages of primary sources that document the origins, long-term effects and continuing work of the civil rights movement in the state.

Other NCCU collections scheduled for digitization include the historical records of Durham's White Rock Baptist Church and the papers of Floyd B. McKissick, one of three African-Americans to break the color barrier at UNC-Chapel Hill's law school, leader of the Congress for Racial Equality, the founder of Soul City in Warren County, N.C., and father of State Sen. Floyd McKissick Jr.

The James E. Shepard collection can be viewed at www.lib.unc.edu/mss/inv/s/Shepard_James_E.html. The project is funded by the federal Institute of Museum and Library Service under the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) administered by the State Library of North Carolina.

CONGOLESE PROFESSOR IS FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE FOR 2012-13

NCCU'S DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE is hosting a Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence from the Democratic Republic of Congo during the 2012-13 academic year.

Dr. Paul N. Masamba Sita, associate professor at the Université Pédagogique Nationale in the Democratic Republic of Congo, served as director and head of mission for the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders from 2001 to 2010. The Institute works with governments throughout Africa to support crime prevention and promote improvements in criminal justice.

A criminologist who earned his Ph.D. at the Catholic University of Leuven in Belgium, Sita will teach at NCCU and conduct research on restorative justice. He is one of about 850 foreign scholars who are teaching and performing research in the United States this year through the Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program. The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program of the U.S. government, and is operated by the State Department.

Dr. Kisha Daniels

EDUCATION PROFESSOR WINS AUSTRALIAN AWARD

Dr. Kisha Daniels, an associate professor in the H.M. Michaux Jr. School of Education, has received an Endeavour Executive Award from the government of Australia.

The Endeavour Awards are a merit-based scholarship program of the Australian government that is generally comparable to the U.S. State Department's Fulbright Program. It provides opportunities for citizens of the Asia-Pacific region, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas to engage in study, research and professional development in Australia.

Daniels' award is in recognition of her research on the use of service-learning as a teaching strategy. Research by her and others shows that service-learning is an effective form of pedagogy that provides rigor and relevance and also builds leadership, cultural awareness and advocacy skills in future educators. Daniels has been using service-learning as an instructional tool since 2006 as the co-principal investigator for a grant from Learn and Serve America.

She is spending the fall semester in Australia, working with faculty at the University of Western Sydney to promote the inclusion of service-learning techniques in their education programs, with a particular focus on educational opportunities for marginalized populations.

"I am honored to be able to work with service-learning on an international scale," Daniels said. "I will bring back new knowledge to support the School of Education, its pre-service and professional candidates and the larger Durham community."



NCCU Launches Criminal Justice Degree Program at Wake Tech

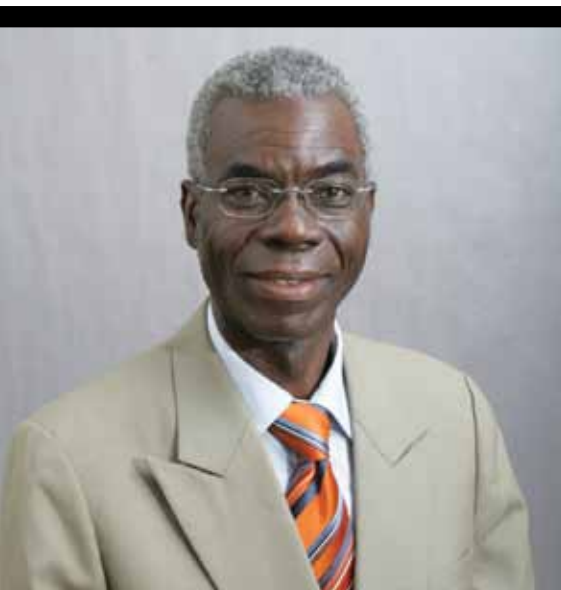
NCCU's Department of Criminal Justice began offering courses this fall at Wake Technical Community College leading to the Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice. Students holding an associate's degree will be able to complete the program in two years.

The program consists of 57 credit hours of courses, delivered in eight sessions lasting eight weeks each, and one five-week summer session. It is designed for students seeking careers in law enforcement and criminal justice.

"We're pleased to expand our partnership with Wake Tech," former NCCU Chancellor Charlie Nelms said when the program was announced in April. "This is a high-quality program that fits well into our strategic plan for expanding our distance-learning offerings and for attracting highly motivated transfer students."

The Criminal Justice degree program is being offered through NCCU's Division of Extended Studies and the NCCU University College Transfer Program. The classes meet at Wake Tech's Public Safety Education Campus in South Raleigh. "We are committed to making sure students receive the same caliber of course delivery as they would if they were attending classes on the NCCU campus," said Dr. Harvey McMurray, chair of the Criminal Justice Department at NCCU.

"Wake Tech is thrilled about North Carolina Central University's presence on our Public Safety Education Campus," said Dr. Stephen Scott, Wake Tech president. "Their bachelor's degree program in Criminal Justice offers students exciting new options for continuing their education in this challenging and important field."



GRADUATES GET ROUSING SENDOFF FROM NAACP LEADER BARBER



North Carolina Central University awarded bachelor's degrees to 536 students on Saturday, May 12, in commencement ceremonies at O'Kelly–Riddick Stadium.

But before the graduates walked across the stage to collect their diplomas, they were rousing challenged by the Rev. William Barber II to engage in the never-ending fight for social justice. Barber, a 1985 graduate of NCCU and the president of the North Carolina State Conference of the NAACP, brought the crowd to its feet with an address that recalled the messages and evoked the cadences of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

"You live at a turning point in history," Barber said. "These are tough times, troubling times. We see mean and oppressive politics taking us in the wrong direction. Why are you here? Because there's a God who has to raise a counterforce to injustice."

Barber noted that he had recently concluded a statewide "Putting a Face on Poverty Tour," drawing attention to the continuing reality that 1.6 million North Carolina residents — including 600,000 children — live below the poverty line. "We found human beings living under bridges and in the woods," he said. "We have seen poverty that makes you sick and ashamed."

**"IF
OUR VALUES
ARE RIGHT AND
OUR BUDGETS
ARE JUST, WE
CAN BUILD A
BETTER
SOCIETY"**

THE REV. WILLIAM
BARBER II



THE REV. WILLIAM BARBER II

"The soul of our nation is on trial," Barber said. "If our values are right and our budgets are just, we can build a better society. We can put the poor at the center of our public policy agenda. We can reject hate and division. We can finish the job of being, in word and deed, one nation under God with liberty and justice for all."

Outgoing Chancellor Charlie Nelms presented Barber with an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree and citation "in recognition of his tireless service to society as a warrior for justice and social change and a speaker of truth to power."

Four faculty members were honored during the ceremony. Dr. Ira T. Wiggins, longtime director of NCCU's renowned Jazz Studies program, received the UNC Board of Governors Award for Excellence in Teaching. NCCU awards for teaching excellence were presented to Dr. Prince Hycy Bull, associate professor and coordinator of educational technology at the School of Education; Dr. La Verne Reid, associate dean of the College of Behavioral and Social Science and professor of Public Health Education; and Dr. James Pearce, associate professor of English and director of the English Department's graduate program.

One day earlier, NCCU awarded graduate and professional degrees to 385 students

**“YOU
STOOD ON THE
SHOULDERS
OF YOUR FAMILY
MEMBERS AND
OTHERS
WHO CAME
BEFORE YOU”**

— WARREN BALLENTINE



WARREN BALLENTINE

in ceremonies at McDougald–McLendon Gymnasium. In the commencement address, attorney and talk-show host Warren Ballentine challenged the graduates to “stay humble and remember to dream.”

“You are the cream of the crop,” Ballentine told the graduates. “Many of you will go on to great things. But remember the journey is not yours alone. You stood on the shoulders of your family members and others who came before you. Always remember whence you came — and always humble yourself.”

Ballentine is the host of “The Warren Ballentine Show,” a top-rated syndicated talk show. He encourages his listeners to harness injustice as a means of bringing about change and solving the problems of the black community.

He urged the graduates to look out for each other and to cultivate “geese sense.” Geese have the sense to fly in flocks, he noted. They are able to travel much faster with a single goose in front working hard, and yielding to another member of the flock when tired. “They have the sense to come together,” Ballentine said. “They have each other’s back.”



RECREATION CENTER GETS A MAKEOVER

BY ROB WATERS

Students returned to the NCCU campus in August to find a transformed fitness and recreation center in the LeRoy T. Walker Physical Education Complex.

Some of the improvements, though long-needed, are not immediately visible. There's the new roof, for example, and thorough overhauls of the 29-year-old plumbing and electrical systems. But some of the visual and atmospheric changes are stunning: The gloom is gone, and so, thanks to a new heating and air conditioning system, is the stifling heat and humidity.

"This used to be a dark dungeon — and a hot one too," said project manager Walter Lennon, as he showed off the bright, airy, two-level fitness center, now equipped with new exercise machines and an array of 46-inch flat-panel TVs.

As project manager with NCCU Design and Construction Services, Lennon oversaw the \$8 million makeover. He is equally proud of the improvements to the Olympic-sized (50-meter) swimming pool, reopened after a shutdown that lasted most of a decade because of leaks and foundation problems.

"We have new lights and new paint — it's very vibrant," Lennon said. "This used to be very dark and gloomy, and there was no air conditioning, so it got uncomfortably steamy."

The main gymnasium is much the way it was before, except the wood floor has been refinished. The big difference is that the big floor fans are no longer in use and the doors no longer need to be propped open for ventilation. The air conditioning system takes care of things instead.

Dr. Kevin Rome, vice chancellor for student affairs and enrollment management,



set the makeover in motion a few years ago, arranging for a bond issue to be repaid from a portion of student fees.

"I was adamant that we have a state-of-the-art wellness facility for students equal to that of any campus," Rome said. "If it's an inviting facility, students are more likely to use it — and it's important for us to focus on the physical health of our students, faculty and staff."

Rome also had to plan ahead to adequately furnish the wellness center once the renovation was finished. "I began to purchase equipment two years out, because I was worried that when it opened, the budget would be so tight that we wouldn't be able to equip it," he said. "My budget fears were justified — we'd have been in serious trouble if we hadn't anticipated that."

The improvements are a big hit with the campus community, said Erica Dixon, director of Campus Wellness and Recreation. "I'm hearing great things from faculty, staff and students."

Dixon said the most important change is the hours of operation. Before the renovation, the workout rooms and fitness programs were open only in the evenings. On weekdays now, the workout facility is open from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. (9 p.m. on Fridays). "That's in line with other universities," she said. The pool is open mornings and evenings.

The Walker Complex is also headquarters for intramural and club sports. Other programs include exercise and Zumba classes, a walking club, a recreational running club and a bike club.

Rome is one of the biggest promoters of the complex and its programs. "I'm there two or three times a week," he said, "and I'm now certified in Zumba. I'll be teaching some exercise classes there."

"It's a lovely facility," he added. "We encourage our alumni to come by and use it. They can get an annual membership and a parking permit that allows them to park at the Walker complex." □

Ph.D. Program is Off and Running

THE **NEXT GENERATION** OF
SCIENTISTS GETS DOWN TO WORK

BY MYRA WOOTEN

A cure for glioblastoma, a better understanding of neurodegenerative disorders and the expanded use of Amazon rainforest plants are just a few of the goals set by North Carolina Central University's six Ph.D. students. This next generation of scientists entered NCCU this fall.



NCCU received approval in fall of 2011 from the UNC Board of Governors to introduce a doctor of philosophy (Ph.D.) program in integrated biosciences, and recruiting began almost immediately. It is the first Ph.D. program on the campus in nearly 50 years. From 1955 to 1964, five people earned doctorates from the institution then known as North Carolina College, all in the field of education.

The new doctorate is offered on two tracks, biomedical sciences and pharmaceutical sciences, and is housed in the College

of Arts and Sciences. The six students will have access to nearly 150,000 square feet of state-of-the-art science space at the Julius L. Chambers Biomedical/Biotechnology Research Institute (BBRI) and the Biomanufacturing Research Institute and Technology Enterprise (BRITE), as well as equipment and facilities on other campuses and locations.

"We are developing leaders in health disparities research," said Dr. Caesar Jackson, interim dean of graduate studies and interim

director of the Ph.D. program. Research involving health disparities has been a key focus of NCCU's science and public health programs for decades.

Jackson convened a committee early this year to develop the curriculum for the program, the qualifications for teaching faculty

One aim of the program is to expand the number of minority scientists, particularly African-Americans, in biomedical research.

and criteria for graduate research mentors. All faculty connected to the program have terminal degrees and hold at least the rank of assistant professor or senior research scientist. All have been extensively published in peer-reviewed journals in biomedical or biopharmaceutical sciences.

The research mentors, who will work most closely with the students, meet even more rigorous criteria. "The mentors must be either principal investigator or co-investigator on an extramurally funded project," Jackson said. "This ensures that the researcher will be able to provide financially for the graduate student's research."

The committee received applications from 32 candidates by April. After review, 12 were invited to the campus for intensive interviews that focused on knowledge of scientific research, commitment to discovery and interpersonal skills. "After the interviews we made offers to seven students and six accepted," said Jackson. "We are quite pleased with this first class of students."

One aim of the program is to expand the number of minority scientists, particularly African-Americans, in biomedical research. A recent report by the National Science Foundation noted that African-Americans make up about 12 percent of the U.S. population, but account for only 3 percent of the work force of scientists and engineers.

On that count, the program is off to a good start. Three of the Ph.D. candidates are African-American, two are natives of Africa and one is from Bhutan, a small kingdom in Asia.

NCCU expects the program to reach an enrollment of about 20 full-time students in its fourth year of operation, and to graduate about five per year starting about 2017.

Despite their varied backgrounds, the members of this first class have much in common. They will each be the first in their families to earn a Ph.D., and they all have a personal commitment to tackling health disparities.

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Here are their stories:

MORGAN CARRINGTON
biomedical sciences



Morgan Carrington began interning in a lab at Johns Hopkins University when she was just 15, studying neuroscience and neurodegenerative disorders. While at Hopkins, Carrington said, she saw people with these conditions come in for treatment, but very few were minorities. "I wanted to know why," she said. "Why were people who exhibited the characteristics of dementia not getting treatment and calling it 'getting old' instead?"

Always inquisitive, she decided to find out why. Six years later, Carrington is getting closer to the answers she seeks, enrolling in the integrated biosciences doctorate program.

"When I heard that the program had concentrations in neuroscience and neurodegenerative disorders, I knew this was a perfect fit," she said. Three rounds of tough interviewing did not deter Carrington, who at 22 is the youngest of the doctoral candidates. "They wanted to know that we were com-

mitted to the program and to health disparities. It was a real weeding out."

Despite her research experience, Carrington said she was a bit surprised that she was selected for the program.

"I was coming straight out of undergrad, without a master's, and I thought 'What is the faculty going to think?'" She earned her bachelor's degree in chemistry from Florida A&M in May and is committed to bettering herself and society both inside the lab and out.

While a student in high school, Carrington wrote and published a young adult novel, "Once Upon a Happening." The story follows Olivia Tilden, a teenager who battles inevitability in the Realm of the Ever After (ROTEA). "Growing up in Baltimore, I saw so many young people who felt that their futures were inevitable," she said. "They were destined to be drug dealers and teen mothers. I wanted to create a world where, unlike most fairytales, you create your own destiny."

"When I heard that the program had concentrations in neuroscience and neurodegenerative disorders, I knew this was a perfect fit."
— Morgan Carrington



SHATASHA HAMILTON pharmaceutical sciences

Shatasha Hamilton knows what it takes to earn a doctorate. After completing a master's degree in biology four years ago at Fayetteville State University, she set research aside in favor of an administrative role with the North Carolina Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation program. As the program coordinator, Hamilton focused on increasing the number of minority students earning doctorates in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) fields.

Two years later she returned to her alma mater and began working with the Ronald E. McNair program, providing a research environment for STEM majors. "It was my job to know what doctorate programs were looking for in potential students," Hamilton said. "And I worked to make sure that next generation of researchers was prepared."

While spending time in the lab with her students, Hamilton realized that she missed research — her own research.

As an undergraduate, Hamilton completed a research internship at the University of Arizona on medicinal chemistry. Hamilton identified drugs derived from plants, using the knowledge of medicine men in the Amazon.

"Holistically treating people and using the knowledge that is readily available — that's my passion," she said. With her mind made up to return to school, she began searching for a program.

Hamilton has been mentored by Antonio Baines, assistant professor in the Biomedical Biotechnology Research Institute, since she was an undergraduate student at Fayetteville State and Baines was a faculty member there. When she learned about the Ph.D. program from a friend who attended NCCU, she contacted Baines for more information.

"Dr. Baines told me about the program and I applied," said Hamilton. "I had a long gap between earning my master's degree and applying to this program. So even though I missed the lab, I wasn't sure if I remembered the rigors of research."

A dinner with faculty members and the first interview eliminated all of Hamilton's concerns. "It all came back to me — I enjoy talking about my research interests."



"Holistically treating people and using the knowledge that is readily available — that's my passion."

— SHATASHA HAMILTON

HELEN ONABANJO
pharmaceutical sciences

Helen Onabanjo loves salsa dancing. She enjoys the energy and the pace. She brings that same energy to everything she does, including her research.

Onabanjo earned a bachelor's degree in biology from East Carolina University and a master's in pharmaceutical sciences from NCCU. While working toward her master's degree — which she received in May — she also worked as a researcher at Duke University. A native of Lagos, Nigeria, Onabanjo said she was attracted to the health disparities focus of the integrated biosciences program.

"There are not a lot of scientists where I am from — there are medical doctors, but not researchers," she said. In fact, Onabanjo is the first in her family to earn a college degree.



She will concentrate her research on diseases that disproportionately affect communities of color. "Where I'm from, people die and we don't know why they died," said Onabanjo. "With this program I am able to understand what happened and take that knowledge back home to help people."

Her familiarity with NCCU and BRITE made selecting a doctorate program quite easy. She turned down an offer from the University of South Carolina. "They already had a project for me," Onabanjo said. "I couldn't choose my project, and that would never work for me. I didn't want to be stuck in a program that wasn't what I wanted to focus on."

"Where I'm from, people die and we don't know why they died," said Onabanjo. "With this program I am able to understand what happened and take that knowledge back home to help people."
— HELEN ONABANJO

ELENA ARTHUR
pharmaceutical sciences



"When you mention research and health disparities, people think about cancer and diabetes, but my passion is hair."
— ELENA ARTHUR

Two years ago, Elena Arthur was spending more time in a recording studio than in a research lab. She had just completed a bachelor's degree in biochemistry but was honoring her commitment to complete an album with her choir at Jubilee Christian Church in Durham. Arthur has been the choir director for the last four years.

A chance encounter in a parking lot with Dr. Delores Grant, assistant professor at BBRI, led Arthur to consider going back into the lab. Grant had been the principal investigator in a research project Arthur was a part of.

"After talking to Dr. Grant I was thinking, 'I need to be back in school,'" Arthur said. "I love research." She learned about the program just three days before the deadline, quickly assembled her application and then began the waiting process.

"God has blessed me," said Arthur, "but this process was tough. And I liked that because it told me that they were serious about the program."

Originally from Ghana, Arthur hopes to study the toxicity of drugs, particularly in hair products for African-Americans. "When you mention research and health disparities, people think about cancer and diabetes, but my passion is hair."

According to Arthur many products produced and marketed to African-Americans have not been tested on the intended end user. Many contain chemicals including sodium hydroxide, ammonium and formaldehyde — chemicals that are also used as drain cleaners, household cleaners and embalming fluid.

"This program is going to build my knowledge, skills and expertise," she said, "so that I can be a researcher designing safer hair products based on research conducted on African-American hair."

DAL KHATRI

biomedical sciences

When he was 13, Dal Khatri and his family fled from their home in southern Bhutan, a small country in the eastern Himalayas with a population of approximately 750,000 — about the same number that live in Charlotte.

Victims of what Khatri calls ethnic cleansing, they left their home with only what they could carry. They were denied refuge in India, so they continued to Nepal, where, with help from several international organizations and the Nepalese government, they became some of the earliest inhabitants of that country's Bhutanese refugee camps.

For the next 18 years, a small bamboo hut in the camp was Khatri's home. But he had a way out. He was smart, really smart. He finished high school at 15 and began teaching younger refugees. And his scholarly achievements earned him a permit to attend Tribhuvan University in Katmandu, Nepal's capital, where he earned bachelor's and master's degrees in microbiology.

By 2008, Khatri says, he and his family concluded that they could never return to Bhutan and would never be granted citizenship in Nepal. The only option left was

third country resettlement. "Going home to Bhutan was not an option," said Khatri. "We had to decide between the camps and holding the roof of the hut during rainy season or coming to the United States."

Through a resettlement program, Bhutanese refugees are permitted to live permanently in the United States, working and paying taxes. North Carolina is now home to more than 3,500 Bhutanese refugees.

After several interviews, health screenings and background checks, Khatri came to the United States in 2009. He settled in Greensboro and found work as a research technician in the microbiology lab at UNC—Chapel Hill.

A year ago, he began looking for a Ph.D. program and focused his search on North Carolina and the UNC system. The desire to stay in the state had more to do with his life outside of the lab: When not engaged in research, he works with Bhutanese refugees in Greensboro, helping them make the same transition he and his family made three years ago, and preserving the culture he loves. "I sometimes still feel lost," Khatri said, "and if I feel that way, they must feel even more lost."

His research interests center on health disparities and cancer research. "Health disparities are really rampant in the part of



the world where I'm from, and this program connects to my interests."

Khatri learned about NCCU's new Ph.D. program from Sabrina Butler, NCCU graduate education director of marketing. "It is really important to be connected to a program where you can do good," Khatri said.

Since moving to Durham, Khatri has continued working with refugees through the Bhutanese Community of North Carolina. The organization has received funding to build the first Bhutanese Community Center. He is also excited about another first — trading in his green card for U.S. citizenship. "I've never had citizenship in any country," he said.

RASHEENA EDMONDSON

biomedical sciences

Rasheena Edmondson has been committed to earning a doctorate for nearly seven years. She completed an undergraduate degree in biology in a program that provided minimal research experience. She then enrolled in a master's program at N.C. A&T State University to gain the experience she knew would improve her chances of getting into a doctorate program.

After graduate school, with a few research internships under her belt, Edmondson began looking for a Ph.D. pro-



gram. While connecting with researchers and professors who knew her capabilities she learned about the integrated bioscienc-

es program from Dr. Catherine White, an assistant professor of biology at N.C. A&T.

"She handed me information about the program and told me it would be perfect for me," Edmondson said. "I couldn't wait to apply." White is the wife of NCCU biology professor Dr. Antonio Baines.

Like her colleagues, Edmondson found the interviews to be tough, but she said her time spent in the lab and classroom prepared her for the challenge.

Edmondson's research interests are centered in cancer biology and sexually transmitted diseases. The Wilson native plans to focus on glioblastomas, the most common and most aggressive form of malignant primary brain tumor.

In 1910,

pharmacist and religious educator Dr. James E. Shepard and a group of like-minded civic leaders established the National Religious Training School and Chautauqua for the Colored Race, the institution known today as North Carolina Central University.

Chautauqua was the name of an adult education movement hugely popular across the United States at the time. Originating at a gathering next to a lake by that name in upstate New York, the movement promoted the benefits of the liberal arts, performing arts, religious traditions and public debate. President Theodore Roosevelt hailed the movement as the “most American thing in America.” It connected communities and fostered engagement with social issues and global affairs, particularly in rural areas and among people who would not otherwise have access to such opportunities.

Shepard and his supporters embraced the Chautauqua concept as a founding framework for their great ambitions for the education, health care and civic engagement of former slaves, their descendants and the Durham community. Their Chautauqua for the Colored Race was established at the edge of the historic Hayti district on a 20-acre campus donated by Brodie L. Duke, eldest son of philanthropist and industrialist Washington Duke, and with the encouragement of the Durham Merchants’ Association, precursor to today’s Durham Chamber of Commerce.

Also bordering the Hayti neighborhood was Durham’s Union Station, which opened in 1905, and, a half-block away, the Biltmore Hotel, which billed itself as “America’s Finest Colored Hotel.” Situated on the rail line between Richmond and Atlanta, these conveniences and the growing reputation of the school helped Shepard’s school attract an international roster of intellectuals, artists and entrepreneurs, including W.E.B. Du Bois, Marian Anderson (1926, ’32, ’46, ’47), Paul Robeson (1941), James Weldon Johnson (1927, ’28), Zora Neale Hurston (who taught as a member of the Theatre Department faculty in 1939), Duke Ellington, A. Philip Randolph and Martin Luther King Jr. Through lectures and private consultations as well as through performances, forums and debates, their presence made a profound difference to the development of NCCU and Durham. The Chautauqua helped establish Shepard’s school and the Durham community as a major destination and incubator for international talent and thought leaders.

FROM ITS
RICH PAST,
NCCU DRAWS
HINTS OF A
FUTURE
COURSE

BY DEBORAH CHAY
AND LOIS DELOATCH



THE

CHAUTAUQUA Legacy

Cementing the Community

Rep. H.M. “Mickey” Michaux Jr. (B.A. ’52, J.D. ’64), now North Carolina’s longest-tenured African-American legislator, witnessed these developments from a front-row seat. Born in 1930 to a prominent Durham family, he grew up in a house “right across the street from the campus.” Shepard and his family were friends and neighbors, and as a child and a teenager, Michaux met many of the prominent visitors as they came through Durham. The Chautauqua, he says, “cemented the community” around a shared set of values, practices, and ambitions in education, the arts, economic development and civil rights. It provided a once-parochial community an opportunity to participate and lead in the wider world of ideas and influence. And for the college (by then called North

Carolina College), it was an important means of complementing and supplementing the curriculum and of opening doors to greater ambition and opportunity.

The half-dozen businessmen, educators and philanthropists who fostered this culture of creativity and engagement at the start of the 20th century did so with the



Notable visitors drawn to the campus in the early days included: **|A|** Zora Neale Hurston, who taught in the Theatre Department in 1939. **|B|** Nat “King” Cole. Daughter Natalie is in the lower left of the photo. **|C|** Duke Ellington, left, with an unidentified friend.



aim of bettering their own segregated community, but over time it became clear that the benefits extended beyond the college and black Durham. Together, they founded a college, created the financial center known as the Black Wall Street, made Durham a destination and incubator for artists, intellectuals, performers, authors and politicians, and established a tradition of civic leadership and participation that gradually eroded the color line and continues to earn Durham's reputation as one of the most dynamic, cosmopolitan, politically progressive cities in the South.

By the 1930s, the once-vibrant Chautauqua movement was fading. New technologies and social movements were opening other channels and opportunities for rural and disadvantaged communities to participate in the national conversation. By the 1940s, the college community no longer referred to itself as a Chautauqua, but the legacy of Shepard's intentions persisted through the wide variety of events the school continued to sponsor for the campus and community, in part through the Lyceum Series, which still operates today.

Dr. Shepard's Influence

Michaux recalls that public lectures, performances and debates were advertised through churches, local news outlets, and community groups; and local families and businesses hosted and sponsored dignitaries and guests. Among the most memorable events for Michaux was a meeting with Marian Anderson in the 1940s. Celebrated worldwide for her con-

tralto voice, Anderson was also noted for breaking barriers for black artists in the late 1930s. Like dozens of other luminaries, she was invited to Durham by Shepard.

"It was Dr. Shepard's influence that got these people here," says Michaux. "Roland Hayes and Paul Robeson visited NCCU and Durham! I don't know how Dr. Shepard did it, but he did. All of these things were open to the community." Michaux believes that the artists, intellectuals and leaders viewed their participation as endorsement and support of a broader progressive movement that would lead to equality and opportunities for African-Americans. They gave generously and intentionally of their gifts, talents and expertise.

Retired NCCU Professor Barbara Logan Cook agrees. She recalls conversations and time spent with legendary jazz composers and pianists Duke Ellington and Eubie Blake, both of whom stayed with her family in their Lawson Street home. Bar-



|A| The Biltmore Hotel in Hayti provided accommodations for many visitors, some of whom performed next door in the 500-seat Regal Theater. Note the poster advertising a Count Basie concert. |B| Author James Baldwin visited the campus and signed his books. |C| Rep. Adam Clayton Powell, right, on the NCCU campus with Dr. Shepard.

bara's father, George Logan, was owner and operator of two successful Hayti businesses, the Regal Theater and Wonderland. The Regal, with 500 seats, offered a variety of live entertainment from performers including Ellington, Cab Calloway and Count Basie. The Biltmore, right next door, provided lodging and accommodations for visitors and Durham's black community and served as a venue for social and cultural exchange.

Through frequent visits to Durham and to the Cook home, Eubie Blake became a close family friend. He learned of Cook's interest in music and encouraged her artistic development with the gift of a Steinway piano to the Cook family. The Blake piano remains one of Cook's most prized possessions and the centerpiece of her Durham home.

"Even as a child I knew that the arts were very important to the life of the community," recalls Cook, now 91, "and NCCU and local businesses viewed arts and culture as a high priority. Particularly in those years of

intense racial segregation, college students and local people had opportunities to hear and see national artists that typically were only available in the major cities like New York or Washington. The Lyceum Series and other university presentations broadened our world."

In retrospect, Cook marvels at the significance of her experiences in the 1920s and '30s. "It was very common for celebrities to be in Durham and stay at our home," she says. "It was only in later years when I went away to study at Fisk University that I realized how special my experiences had been."

Lasting Influence

The National Religious Training School and Chautauqua for the Colored Race has been rechartered, renamed and redirected many times in the course of its evolution into today's North Carolina Central University. Yet it continues to follow a course charted in its foundation as a Chautauqua,

and to reflect the ahead-of-their-time understanding of Shepard and his co-founders that education, arts and entrepreneurship are vital to the advancement of a people.

Elements of the Chautauqua continue to be integrated and infused into the life of today's NCCU — not only through the academic curriculum, but also in the Lyceum Series, guest speaker series, and in other ways. New emphases on arts and culture, critical thinking, innovation, entrepreneurship and collaborative efforts are modern manifestations of the original Chautauqua ideals.

Carlton Wilson, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and a historian by training, is among the campus and community leaders enthusiastic about the potential of a Chautauqua "revival" to build momentum and support for contemporary programs, projects and initiatives.

Wilson sees the NCCU Chautauqua as an essential foundation to build upon and advance the university's assets and contributions — past, present and future. And although the challenges NCCU faces in 2012 differ from those faced in 1912 by the Chautauqua for the Colored Race, NCCU continues to uphold the values and pursue the benefits a liberal arts curriculum, distance-learning opportunities and mission of service on behalf of its students.

"In many ways," Wilson says, "NCCU has always been forward-thinking and at the forefront of education, arts and culture. Dr. Shepard's original vision is more relevant than ever." □

➔ **W.E.B. DuBOIS TOURED DURHAM IN 1912**, and he was impressed. He wrote a long article about his visit, titled "The Upbuilding of Black Durham: The Success of the Negroes and Their Value to a Tolerant and Helpful Southern City," in which he described what he witnessed at Dr. Shepard's school, two years after it first opened to students. DuBois wrote:

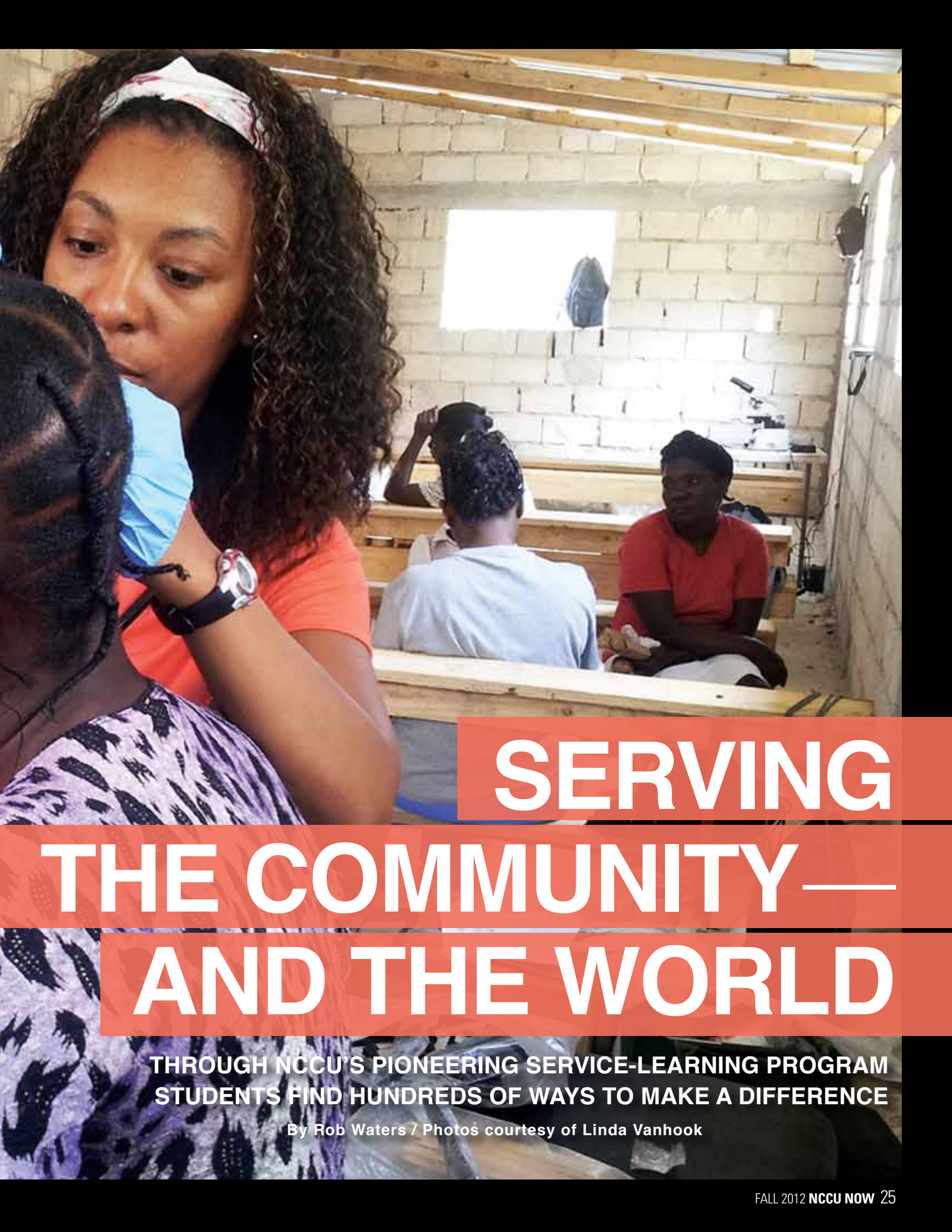
The first thing I saw in black Durham was its new training school — four neat white buildings suddenly set on the sides of a ravine, where a summer Chautauqua for colored teachers was being held. The whole thing had been built in four months by colored contractors after plans made by a colored architect, out of lumber from the colored planning mill and ironwork largely from the colored foundry. Those of its two hundred and fifty students who boarded at the school, slept on mattresses from the colored factory and listened to colored instructors from New York, Florida, Georgia, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and North Carolina. All this was the partially realized dream of one colored man, James E. Shepard. He formerly worked as secretary for a great Christian organization, but dissatisfied at a peculiarly un-Christian drawing of the color line, he determined to erect at Durham a kind of training school for ministers and social workers which would be "different."

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▷ DEBORAH CHAY is principal of DC Project, LLC, which provides advancement counsel to mission-oriented organizations and individuals. She is founder of Durham Chautauqua, a cultural capital development exchange.

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▷ LOIS DELOATCH is vice chancellor for Institutional Advancement at NCCU. She conducts independent research on African-American arts and culture, and she is a nationally recognized vocalist and songwriter.



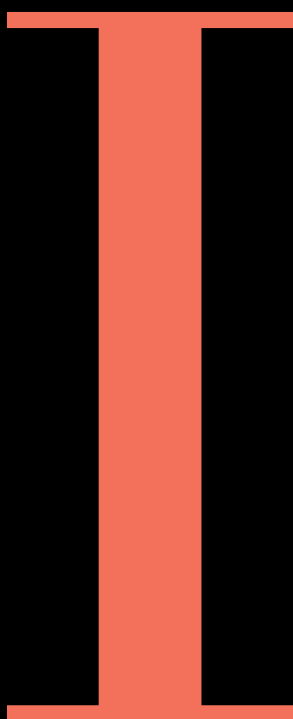
Linda Vanhook, left, associate clinical professor of nursing, and nursing student Kartrina Wright, examine a Haitian child at a clinic set up in a rural church during a 2012 spring break service trip.



SERVING THE COMMUNITY— AND THE WORLD

THROUGH NCCU'S PIONEERING SERVICE-LEARNING PROGRAM
STUDENTS FIND HUNDREDS OF WAYS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

By Rob Waters / Photos courtesy of Linda Vanhook



It's no stretch to say that community service has become embedded in the DNA of North Carolina Central University.

In 1995, under the leadership of then-Chancellor Julius Chambers, NCCU became the first campus in the UNC System to require community service of all students as a condition of graduation. From that, the Academic Community Service Learning Program (ACSLP) has

grown to where it now provides an extraordinarily diverse array of services — and a wide range of service opportunities for students to explore. A few examples:

- Since 2009, NCCU has collaborated with Durham Habitat for Humanity to build four houses and rehab two others in the neighborhood surrounding the campus. The work was performed by students, faculty and staff volunteers. Fundraising is under way to build a fifth home.
- Since 1997, hundreds of NCCU students have worked as tutors in Durham elementary schools in the America Reads program, which aims to bring the reading skills of all pupils up to grade level by the end of third grade. Last school year, 78 students worked one-on-one with children in seven Durham schools for a total of nearly 3,500 hours.
- During the weeklong 2012 spring break, eight senior nursing students traveled to Haiti at their own expense and provided physical exams, vision screenings and basic medical care at a series of rural clinics.

Presiding over the community service program is Dr. Deborah Bailey, the director since 2009. She and her small staff maintain a file of more than 150 organizations and nonprofits in the Triangle that they work with on a regular basis. Some are big, like the Red Cross. Others are small, like churches that provide tutoring.

The ACSLP office also keeps a service file for all undergraduates, logging the hours they

|1| The nursing students toted their medical gear to each of the four clinics they established on their weeklong visit to Haiti.

|2| Natalie Turkaly examines a Haitian toddler. The area the students visited sustained heavy damage in the 2010 earthquake.

|3| Junior Chantel Thomas is a frequent America Reads volunteer at Durham's W.G. Pearson Elementary School.



put in. The staff can quickly provide a service resumé for each student.

"Many graduate schools and employers today will ask a candidate, 'What is your service?'" Bailey notes. "A strong profile of service is a big plus to many employers. It indicates a willingness to engage and solve problems in the real world."

ABOVE AND BEYOND

Bailey is particularly proud of the many students who embrace community service and go far beyond the 120 hours (15 hours per semester) required for graduation. The 2011-12 senior class included 164 students who had earned

240 or more service hours — double the requirement.

"These are students who love the service that they do," Bailey says.

Jasmine Crossland was one such senior. The Washington, D.C., native graduated in May with a B.A. in mass communication and a minor in English. During her last two years at NCCU, she put in 20 hours a week or more as an America Reads volunteer working with first graders at Burton Elementary School in Durham.

"I worked mostly with children who were behind in reading," Crossland said. "I played games with them to get them to engage. My favorite book for reading with them is 'The Cat in the Hat' — I act out all the voices.

"When they get stopped or frustrated," she added, "I tell them, 'I'm going to be here for you

until you get it.' It just touches my heart to help them. I love it when they say 'I can read better because Miss Jasmine helped me.'"

Similarly engaged with America Reads is **Chantel Thomas**, a junior from Fuquay-Varina, a nursing major, honor student and student leader who still finds a way to volunteer three times a week at W.G. Pearson Elementary School.

"I love working with children," Thomas said. "This is the next generation that will someday be leading the community and the country. I like going to the schools. It's a welcome stress reliever from what I do in college — and the teachers love it. The one-on-one contact is something they rarely have time to provide."

Charles Okechukwu is active in the schools a different way. A native of Nigeria who has gained permanent resident status in the U.S., Okechukwu is a junior, an honor student with a double

"I LOVE WORKING WITH CHILDREN. THIS IS THE NEXT GENERATION THAT WILL SOMEDAY BE LEADING THE COMMUNITY AND THE COUNTRY"

— CHANTEL THOMAS





major in chemistry and pharmaceutical science. He has engaged in original research and made presentations at scientific conferences. And he still managed to find a way to put in more than 300 hours last year as a volunteer tutor and mentor at two Durham elementary schools, Durham's Eastway and Pearson.

To be an effective mentor, Okechukwu said, it's important to devote the time to get to know the children he works with. "I try to be a role model for the boys," he said. "You have to work with them long enough to trust you."

[4] Nykia Lee, center, and a Haitian translator explore the city of Grand Goâve, which the nursing students used as a base during their spring break trip. **[5]** Nykia Lee interviews a patient at one of the village clinics. **[6]** Raya Wilson performs an exam on a Haitian patient. **[7]** A mother holds a child as Shandolyn Brown performs an exam. Each of the eight nursing students paid her own way on the spring trip.

'A MOVING EXPERIENCE'

For eight NCCU nursing students, a 2012 spring break trip to Haiti provided a service learning experience of unusual intensity. The students, all

seniors, traveled to the city of Grand Goâve in southwest Haiti, a region that sustained heavy damage from the 2010 earthquake.

Leading the trip was Linda Vanhook, associate clinical professor of nursing, a veteran of many previous service trips to Haiti. From Grand Goâve, they ventured forth for days to rural churches in the nearby mountains, where they conducted one-day clinics from early in the morning till about 5 p.m.

Each day, they would ride in a truck on rocky roads, then tote their equipment on foot to the clinic site. Their patients waited outside in the tropical sun, or in the shade of a tarp or tree. The nursing students had none of the medical technology typically available to them — that was part of the challenge.

Serving 50 or more people each day, they dealt with whatever conditions they encountered — including diabetes, scabies, hypertension and urinary tract infections. They performed triage, health assessments and vision screenings, and dispensed medications from a limited pharmacy.

Each student had to pay her own expenses for the trip — about \$2,000. In a group interview conducted with six of the travelers more than a month after they returned to NCCU, they all



“LAST YEAR WE WERE ON THE HONOR ROLL WITH DISTINCTION, AND THIS YEAR WE’RE A NATIONAL FINALIST.”

— DR. DEBORAH BAILEY, ACSLP DIRECTOR

seemed to still be on an emotional high from the trip.

“I didn’t realize it would cost so much to volunteer, but I’d do it again in a heartbeat,” said Nykiya Lee.

“The clinics stretched us,” added **Kartrina Wright**. “We had opportunities for critical thinking. We got a chance to put our skills to use even before we graduated.”

“It was a very moving experience,” said **Catreina Cherry**. “I knew they were poor, but it was eye-opening to see the poverty first-hand. There were kids with no shoes, and sometimes no clothes — and people who were able to eat only when they could find food.”

A NATIONAL FINALIST

Early this year, the Corporation for National and Community Service named NCCU a national finalist for its President’s Award, which recognizes colleges and universities around the country for their volunteer efforts in the community. The corporation, which began the honor roll program in 2006, evaluated 642 schools for their service performance. Of those, 513 were named to the honor roll, 110 received honor roll recognition “with distinction,” 14 (including NCCU) were identified as finalists, and five received

the Presidential Award. One of those five was N.C. State University.

“Last year we were on the honor roll with distinction, and this year we’re a national finalist,” said ACSLP director Bailey. “We’ve been climbing in the rankings every year as service has permeated the campus culture.”

For some students, the community service experience is shaped by per-



|8| Four of the NCCU nursing students, along with some of the friends they made during the trip. From left are Raya Wilson, Catreina Cherry, Farrah Latortue and Kartrina Wright. |9| Kartrina Wright tends to a leg injury.

sonal circumstances. **Jeremy Powe**, for example, is determined to make his mark on breast cancer. Powe, who graduated magna cum laude in May with a B.S. in health education, is all too familiar with the disease: His great-grandmother died from it, an aunt was recently diagnosed and his grandmother is a 24-year survivor. Powe wears a pink bracelet with the phrase “Imagine life without breast cancer” every day — and he plans to build a career in public health education to bring awareness to the disease.

Three years ago, as a member of Beta Nu Rho social service fellowship, he established Kickball for Breast Cancer, now a yearly event held on the NCCU campus that supports the Susan G. Komen Foundation. “Everybody remembers playing kickball as a kid,” said Powe. “It seemed like the perfect way to support a cause and have fun.”

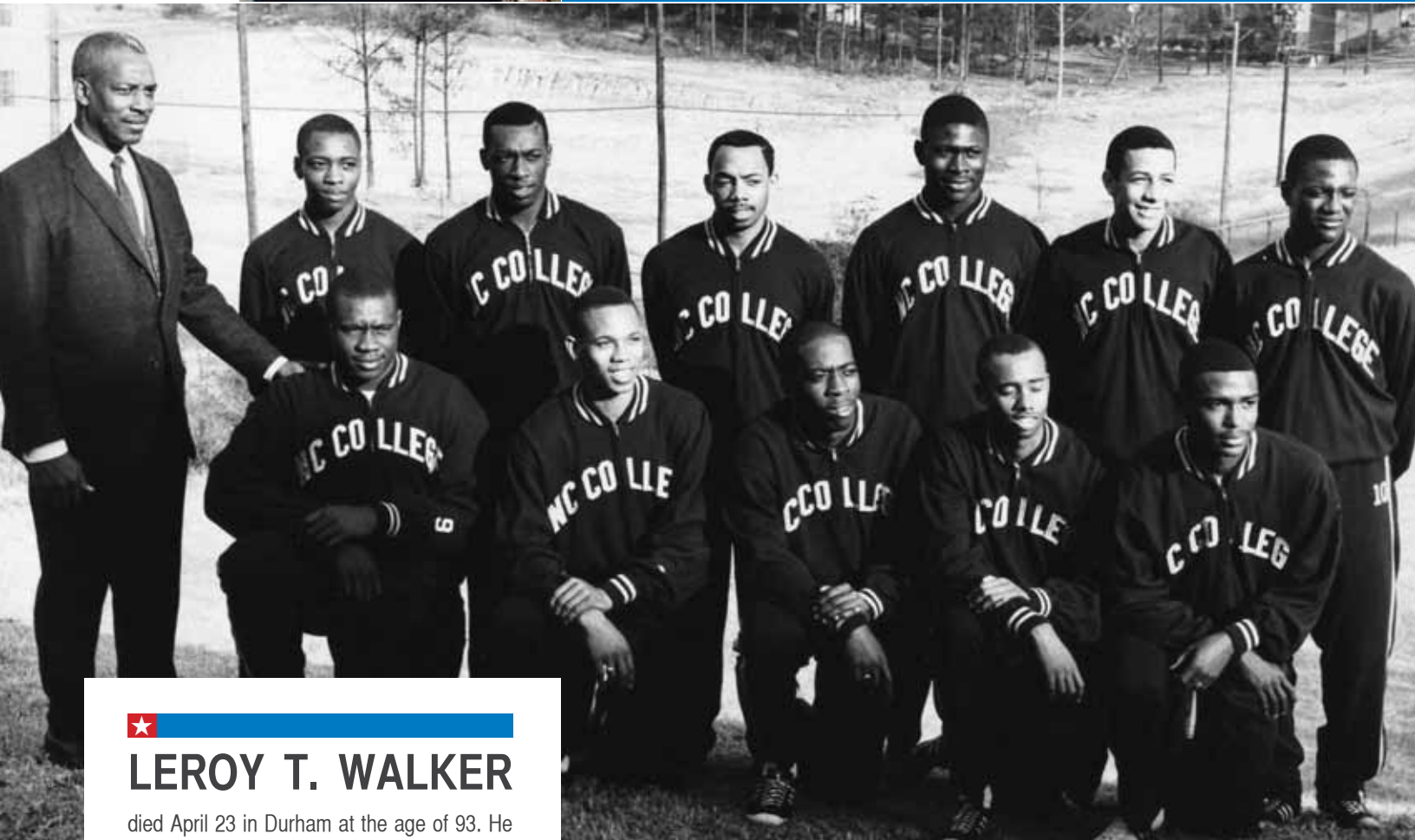
Besides his work with breast cancer Powe tutored one day a week at Pine Knolls Learning Center in Chapel Hill and was a student organizer of the award-winning Eagle Pride Blood Drive on campus. When Strengthening the Black Family, an area nonprofit, needed new resources for individuals with diabetes, Powe created an exercise video for them.

At the spring Honors Convocation, Powe received the American Association for Health Education’s Outstanding Health Education Major award. And at Commencement, a contingent of about 40 relatives and friends cheered for him from the stands at O’Kelly–Riddick Stadium.

“With this type of support I feel like I can handle anything,” he said. □



LEROY T. WALKER
REMEMBERED AS EDUCATOR,
CHANCELLOR AND
COACH



LEROY T. WALKER

died April 23 in Durham at the age of 93. He was chancellor emeritus of North Carolina Central University, a historic leader in the U.S. Olympic movement and an acclaimed coach and educator who shaped thousands of lives at NCCU and elsewhere.

Hundreds of people from all facets of Dr. Walker's life — from athletes he coached to coaches he mentored — packed Duke University Chapel on May 1 to bid a final farewell to a larger-than-life hero.

HE INSPIRED OTHERS TO ACHIEVE

BY ROB WATERS



WALKER WAS A PIONEER.

He coached athletes at every Olympic Games from 1956 to 1976. He was the first African-American Olympic head coach when he led the U.S. track and field team at the 1976 Montreal games. He became the first black president of the U.S. Olympic Committee and played a central role in bringing the 1996 games to Atlanta, his hometown. In a career that began in 1945 at North Carolina College (now NCCU), he coached 111 All-Americans, 40 national champions and 12 Olympians. He served as the university's chancellor from 1983 to 1986.

"LeRoy's death signaled the end of an era," said the Rev. Dr. Harmon Smith, Walker's long-time friend and former rector who presided over the funeral service. "We lost a national icon, an exemplary pillar in our community. His awards pale in comparison to the values and virtues of his life."

LeRoy Tashreau Walker was born June 14, 1918, in Atlanta, the youngest of 13 children. He grew up in Harlem after the death of his father when he was 9. He was the only one in his family to go to college. Attending Benedict College in Columbia, S.C., on an athletic scholarship, he was an all-conference basketball player, an All-American quarterback and a magna cum laude graduate.

He met NCCU founder James E. Shepherd while working for his brother Joe's construction company at Camp Butner before World War II. After the war, in 1945, he came to Durham, to the school then known as North Carolina College.

Shepherd initially hired Walker as football coach. There was no track program at the time, but Walker developed one as a means of conditioning the players. Before long, he was focusing more on track and becoming an expert in the field. He went on to earn a master's degree in physical education from Columbia University and, in 1957, a Ph.D. in exercise physiology and biomechanics from New York University.

His coaching achievements, combined with his quiet confidence and eloquence, took Walker across all kinds of political, racial and international boundaries. While some of his runners were participating in lunch-counter sit-ins, he quietly integrated the world of track on his own through his friendship with Duke's Bob Chambers and Al Buehler.

Those friendships made it possible for Walker's athletes to train



(Below) Walker was honored with the Trailblazer Award by the Athletics Department in 2009. **(Left)** On the Great Wall of China during one of his many international trips. **(Bottom)** Anthonia Ballard, left, and Alexis Sherrill were among the track team members who carried the Olympic torch at Walker's May 1 funeral procession.



OLYMPIC SUCCESS

By 1956, he was at the Olympics in Melbourne, Australia, with one of his North Carolina College students, a young hurdler named Lee Calhoun. Calhoun took the gold medal in the 110-meter hurdles, and repeated his success four years later in Rome. Over the years, Walker advised or coached Olympic athletes from Ethiopia, Kenya, Israel, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago. As head American track coach at the 1976 Montreal games, he led a squad that included hurdler Edwin Moses and decathlete Bruce Jenner to gold medals in six events.



Top: Philadelphia, 1964: Coach Walker with winning Penn Relays team. From left, Edwin Roberts, Robert Johnson, Terrell Amos and Norman Tate. Bottom: Former Chancellor Charlie Nelms releases a dove in honor of Dr. Walker.



alongside white athletes at the modern facilities of Duke's Wallace Wade Stadium at a time when there were separate waiting rooms and water fountains for blacks and whites elsewhere in Durham.

"We were not trying to make a court case out of it," Buehler said. "We just decided that was the best place to train."

Olympians he mentored usually called him Doc. At NCCU, where over the years he held positions that included department chair, vice chancellor and chancellor, people most often called him Coach. Walker was a member of more than a dozen halls of fame, but his admirers said his most impressive legacy may be not in what he accomplished, but in what he inspired and enabled others to achieve.

'You didn't want to disappoint Doc'

What set him apart was the deep respect he commanded from those he taught and mentored. They hungered for his approval, and smarted from his criticism.

"He was more than just a coach," said Harvey Glance, a member of the American 4x100 meter relay team that won the gold medal in the 1976 Montreal Olympics, speaking at the Duke Chapel service.

"When I first got my coaching job, he mentored me through all kinds of tough times," said Glance, who went on to coach at Auburn University and the University of Alabama. In the late 1980s, more than a decade after the Olympic triumph, Walker and Glance met again, and Walker told him he was disappointed that Glance had never completed his college degree.



"That, coming from Doc, was like a knife being stabbed 3,700 times," Glance said. "You didn't want to disappoint Doc. Two weeks later I enrolled back at school — I was only one semester away from finishing — and I got my degree."

Walker saw athletics not as an exclusive activity, but as part of developing a strong overall character. He said his own college experience, in which he earned high honors as both athlete and student, helped shape his attitude toward athletics and academics. "Don't tell me because you are an athlete you can't do something," he said.

Chancellor Walker

In 1983, UNC President William Friday tapped Walker to become interim chancellor of NCCU. The hallmark of Walker's chancellorship was his insistence on excellence. "Excellence in performance in all aspects is an expectation," he said. "The NCCU students will not be excused from this demand. The pursuit of excellence must be a passion."

When he stepped down in 1986, the UNC Board of Governors retroactively awarded him the title of permanent chancellor.

When he left NCCU, it was to assume the position of treasurer, then chief of mis-

sion and finally president of the U.S. Olympic Committee. It was under Walker's leadership from 1992 to 1996 that the games came to Atlanta in 1996.

He was proud of the part he played in bringing the Olympics to his hometown, but he also insisted that the Olympic torch be carried through Durham. When it got to NCCU, he carried it himself and lit a gold cauldron in front of 500 cheering people before the gymnasium and recreation complex that bears his name. "I wanted to share this with you, wanted to make sure you got to witness and be part of this," he told the crowd. "I knew you'd be as overwhelmed by this as I am."

And in the opening ceremonies in Atlanta, Walker led the march of America's athletes into the stadium.

During NCCU's Centennial Celebration in 2010, Dr. Walker was one of the inaugural recipients of the Shepard Medallion, named for the NCCU founder and commissioned by then-Chancellor Charlie Nelms to recognize "women and men who have served the school, their communities or their professions in an exemplary manner."

The 90-minute ceremony in Duke Chapel was a fitting tribute to a man who had gained international stature during a 60-year career. At the service, U.S. Rep. G.K. Butterfield read a letter from President and Mrs. Obama. Outside the chapel, a horse-drawn glass caisson waited to take Walker's casket to burial.

As the caisson started its slow journey across Durham, members of NCCU's track team took turns jogging in pairs in front of the horses. They carried a torch, the same one used in the 1996 games, its flame flickering in the May sunlight.

Dr. Walker's survivors include his daughter, Dr. Carolyn Walker Hopp, and son, LeRoy T. Walker Jr. He was preceded in death by his wife, Katherine. At the request of his family, NCCU has established the Dr. LeRoy T. Walker Distinguished Professorship honoring his four decades of service to the university (www.nccu.edu/donation). □



the nelms era:

TRANSFORMING NCCU

BY AYANA D. HERNANDEZ

Dr. Charlie Nelms arrived on the campus of North Carolina Central University in August 2007 after being selected as the institution's chancellor. One evening a few days after he took office, he walked the university's track and made an observation that quickly became a high-priority assignment for the facilities services department: Lights were needed on the track so that students, faculty, staff and local residents would have an outlet for exercising and wellness.

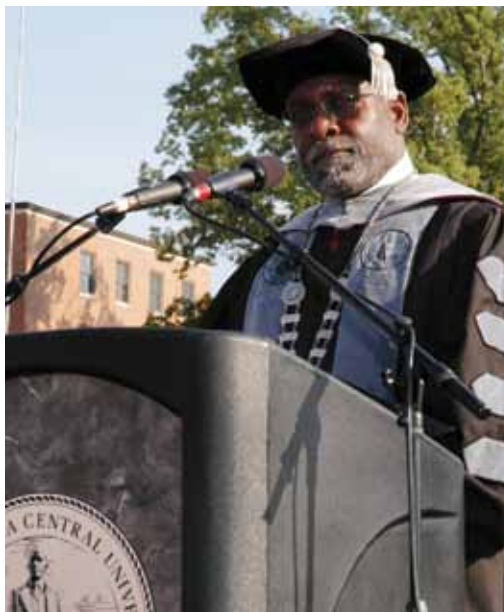


Photo courtesy of Ivan Watkins

"It wasn't just about the lights. I wanted to create a campus environment that was more inviting and aesthetically appealing," said Nelms. During his tenure, Nelms oversaw the investment of \$75 million for construction on campus, including a new residence hall, the Department of Nursing building, W.G. Pearson Cafeteria, the Centennial Garden and renovations to the LeRoy T. Walker Physical Education Complex and Miller-Morgan Building.



→ Nelms came to NCCU serious and unapologetic about transforming the institution into a more effective university that was engaged in the business of educating future leaders. He quickly identified NCCU's challenges and opportunities for growth, gathered his leadership team and sought out the resources he needed to do the work. He also led the institution through some of its most challenging times: He initiated an investigation into alleged civil and criminal activities related to a university-led program and discovered and shut down an unaccredited satellite campus at a church in Lithonia, Ga.

Five years after taking the university and his administration to greater levels of transparency and accountability, Nelms retired as chancellor in August. He is credited with raising the national profile of the university — NCCU has been ranked among the top public HB-CUs by U.S. News & World Report for four consecutive years and has moved into the top 30 in Washington Monthly's list of master's-level universities. The Quality Service Initiative, which Nelms started at NCCU, is now nationally recognized as a model for customer service. Nelms made good on the priorities and promises he laid out early in his term. Just weeks after his retirement, NCCU welcomed nearly 1,400 first-year students, the largest freshman class in the institution's history, with a strong academic profile (average GPA 2.96 and average SAT score 831).

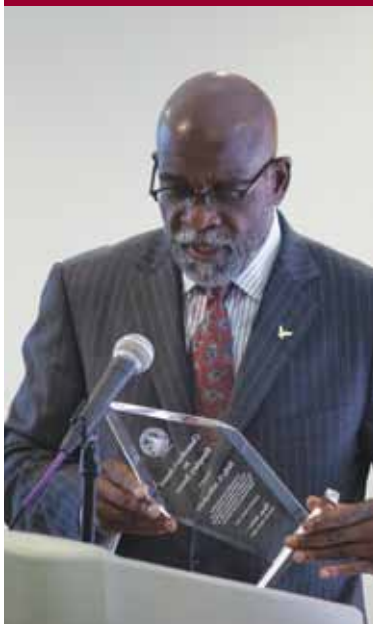
Raising the Standard of Excellence

A graduate of a historically black university, the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Nelms came to NCCU with more than 38 years of experience in higher education leadership at majority institutions, his most recent appointment having been with the University of Indiana system. He laid out his agenda for the university in his installation speech, titled "In Pursuit of Excellence: A Return to the Basics," on Feb. 22, 2008: "My vision for North Carolina Central University is deeply rooted in the belief that the true measure of an excellent university is defined by the success of its students and alumni, not in the recitation of its rhetoric or in the repetition of its rituals.... We must demonstrate through the quality of our programs and services that we are competitive, relevant and responsive."

Nelms quickly became known for walking all corners of the campus. He routinely collected litter off sidewalks and disposed of it in nearby trash receptacles. And he established a tradition each August in which he and his leadership team would help first-year students move into their residence halls.

Mea Foster, a senior mass communications major from Charlotte, recalled the first time she met Nelms. "I arrived on campus as a freshman and I was moving into my room in Baynes Hall one hot August day," she said. "A seemingly regular-looking gentleman offered to help me. My father brought it to my attention, 'Hey Mea, by the way, this is your Chancellor!' It wasn't until I was settled in that I fully realized exactly who Chancellor Nelms was and what it said about his character to come out and work on move-in day."

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Foster added, “His leadership helped build positive student morale at NCCU. He often attended sporting events and student festivities. He made sure that student academics were up to par and that we remembered our main reason for attending college: Destination graduation.”

Nelms’ style was straightforward, bold and passionate. “He helped to promote a culture of student success and instructed faculty and staff that student success is our priority,” said Dr. Bernice Johnson, associate vice chancellor for academic affairs and associate provost. Johnson has served in the Academic Affairs division of the university for more than 30 years. “Chancellor Nelms challenged us to come up with an idea that would work and lead to greater success for our students — and he made funding and resources available through all phases of the process.”

Nelms believed it was the responsibility of each faculty and staff member to ensure that the university met its goal of retaining and graduating students. He matched this vision and commitment with tangible results. Under his leadership, NCCU obtained more than \$120 million in sponsored research support and conducted the most comprehensive academic program review in more than 30 years.

Defining a Culture of Student Success

Nelms set out a bold set of initiatives in 2007: Raise expectations for student performance and the academic bar; improve campus aesthetics; create a quality service initiative; make student success the No. 1 priority; increase retention and graduation; grow the institution qualitatively; and expand grants and funding. His strategy for student success started with admitting and enrolling students who were better prepared to deal with the rigors of

college, both academically and socially, while working toward meeting the UNC Board of Governors’ goal of a first-to-second-year retention rate of 80 percent and a six-year graduation rate of 53 percent.

He tapped Johnnie Southerland, director of strategic planning, to develop a 10-year plan that would allow the university to begin tracking and measuring the progress of the university. “It is critical that we track the impact we are having on student success,” Nelms said, “as our goal is to help students learn, graduate and ultimately obtain employment.”

As part of an initiative aimed at reorganizing University College to better support students beginning in their freshman year, Dr. Johnson was moved into the role of dean. The college was restructured and additional staff were hired to provide students with mandatory tutorials, weekly advising sessions and progress reviews. The university also instituted an academic improvement and progression plan that increased the minimum GPA required for students to remain enrolled from 1.5 to 1.9 in the fall of 2011, and from 1.9 to 2.0 in the fall of 2012.

“Today, we are at 98.6 of our projected enrollment, and our retention rate for students moving from their freshman to sophomore year is at 71.3 percent,” Johnson said.

Nelms realized that potential for high-quality enrollment growth existed in the pool of community college and transfer students. He organized a new Office of Transfer Services under the Division of Student Affairs to recruit and support this student population. The office provides resources from admissions to networking opportunities for transfer students, whose numbers have more than doubled over five years to more than 2,100.

Nelms also recognized that educating and nurturing male students was especially critical for schools like NCCU. A special initiative was needed to help prepare young men to be successful and ready them for the workforce. “By investing in these students, we can help them defy the odds reflected in the statistics of crime, unemployment and parental absence associated with young minority males,” said Jason Dorsette, director of the Centennial Scholars Program.

Centennial Scholars was launched in 2010, the university’s centennial year. “It is designed to ensure that African-American males are successful inside and outside the classroom,” said Dorsette. “Our program was able to build positive momentum because Chancellor Nelms was a part of the process. He was a giant in higher education. He challenged us. He got direct with us.” The program started with 21 students and has grown to include more than 510 at the start of the 2012-13 academic year. The first cohort, which includes SGA president Reginald McCrimmon, will graduate in May 2013.

“Chancellor Nelms is a true example of a servant leader,” McCrimmon said. “He is a man who strives to be great by genuinely serving others. There is no question that as an institution, we are better because of his leadership.”

Challenging HBCU Leaders to be Accountable

As Nelms traveled throughout North Carolina and across the country, he carried his message and charge to the NCCU community consistently and clearly: Enhance the university’s quality, efficiency and effectiveness. Nelms keynoted conferences and moderated panels addressing the advancement of higher education and HBCUs.



On Aug. 6, the campus community honored Chancellor Nelms and his wife, Jeanetta, at a farewell reception.

Dr. Marybeth Gasman, one of the nation's experts on issues of race in higher education, worked with Nelms. "Charlie was outspoken and brave," she said. "He challenged HBCUs to think and act in ways that prepared them for the 21st century. He pushed them to realize the demands of the market and did so using data."

Gasman, a professor of education at the University of Pennsylvania, saw Nelms' voice grow for NCCU and its sister institutions and their leaders. "His kind, yet effective, demeanor pushed people to do their best work. He pushed other HBCU leaders to be accountable, try new approaches, use data to make decisions, and to speak out on national issues. All of this raises the profile of HBCUs."

Leaving a Legacy

Nelms' successor is being sought by the university's Chancellor's Search Committee, headed by Harold T. Epps, a Philadelphia businessman who is an NCCU alumnus and member of the Board of Trustees. Epps said he expects the search process to take six to nine months.

Dr. Walter Brown, a retired dean of the School of Education whose 1955 Ph.D. from NCCU was the first doctorate conferred by a historically black institution, said, "It is going to be hard to follow Dr. Nelms. I knew a number of his predecessors, and Dr. Nelms recalled for me some of the qualities that the founder, Dr. James Shepard, and Dr. Alfonso Elder both had. The values and love for students and his love for people are what he gave the university. The university is all the better for the heritage he leaves behind." □

Becton Steps in as Interim Chancellor

BY ROB WATERS

Charles L. Becton, an attorney, law professor and former judge on the North Carolina Court of Appeals, took office as interim chancellor of NCCU on Aug. 6. He was appointed by UNC President Tom Ross shortly after Chancellor Charlie Nelms announced his retirement.

"Chancellor Nelms has made extraordinary contributions to the academic quality and stature of North Carolina Central University that will hold it in good stead as we search for his successor," Ross said. "Judge Becton is known and respected throughout the state for his sound judgment and ability to get things done. I know that the campus will be in very capable hands."

Born in Morehead City and raised in the eastern North Carolina town of Ayden, Becton earned his undergraduate degree at Howard University and holds law degrees from Duke University (J.D.) and the University of Virginia School of Law (LL.M.). He began his legal career in 1969 with the New York-based NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund and joined the Charlotte law firm of Chambers Stein Ferguson & Lanning the following year. Appointed to the state Court of Appeals in 1981, he served on the appellate bench until 1990, when he returned to private practice with the Raleigh law firm of Fuller, Becton, Slifkin & Bell.

A Durham resident, Becton is widely known in legal circles as an expert on trial procedures and trial advocacy skills. Until his NCCU appointment, he was the John Scott Cansler Lecturer at the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Law and a visiting professor at the Duke University School of Law. In 2010, he served as the Charles Hamilton Houston Chaired Professor of Law at the NCCU Law School. He has served as president of the N.C. Association of Black Lawyers, the N.C. Academy of Trial Lawyers, and the N.C. Bar Association. He and his wife, Brenda, have three adult children.

One week after taking office, Becton spoke to the assembled NCCU faculty and staff at the University Conference, an annual gathering that takes



place shortly before the start of the fall semester. In a spirited address that mixed humor and rhymes with straight talk about the challenges ahead, Becton said he does not intend to come up with new programs or initiatives. He said he will "continue the wonderful work — the programs and initiatives — of Chancellor Nelms." At the same time, he said that for as long as he is in office, he will hold the faculty and staff to high levels of accountability.

"Seldom has there been such a challenging and demanding time for educators,"

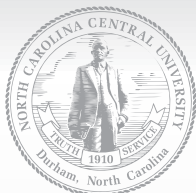
Becton said. "There is no week nor day nor hour when distractions, indifference, and frivolity don't threaten to overwhelm our students. If we educators lose our passion and our will to involve, students will disengage by default. The only defense against student apathy is a concerned, caring faculty and staff.

"Our job," he added, "is to encourage students to get off their 'buts.' That's spelled b-u-t-s, not b-u-t-t-s. It was Bernie Marcus, co-founder of Home Depot, who said, 'Don't let your 'buts' get in the way of making a difference.' Buts are nothing but excuses — as in, 'I would have made a difference, but I grew up in poverty... but I'm from a single-family home... but it was too risky.'"

Becton summarized his expectations for the faculty and staff, making clear that retention of students and keeping them on track for graduation were the paramount missions. Among the specifics were these:

- "We have a responsibility to ensure student success."
- You must be pro-student.
- You must assess students throughout the semester and demand a meeting with any who are failing your course. "No student should get a D or F at the end of the semester without intervention by the instructor."

"I am a prodigiously hard worker," Becton said. "I can think of only a few times in my career when an opposing lawyer out-prepared me. My clients got the best I had to offer. NCCU will get the best I have to offer. And I expect the best from you." □



James E. Shepard, Founder

Dear Class Notes Readers:

Welcome to the Fall 2012 edition of Class Notes. We hope you enjoy reading about the news from old friends and classmates. This is just one of our efforts to strengthen the Eagle network and sense of community by fostering ways to reconnect. We pledge to offer frequent opportunities to catch up and keep up with your fellow Eagles in a variety of publications and social media.

We want you to reach out to one another and the university through these Class Notes and NCCU NOW or our two electronic newsletters, Eagle News@NCCU and From the Nest. If you are missing any of these publications from your inbox or mailbox, let us know at alumni-info@nccu.edu. We hope you will take the opportunity to friend us on Facebook at NCCU OAR, follow us on Twitter @NCCUOAR and join us on LinkedIn's North Carolina Central University "Eagle Alumni" group.

You, our alumni, are the largest and the only permanent constituency of our university. NCCU needs your advice, advocacy and financial support. We also look to you to volunteer on campus and in your community to support university initiatives and recruit students. I don't have to tell you that these are tough times. Everyone can use a little support and encouragement from those who have been there, and from those who have been with you from the beginning.

Enjoy Class Notes and be sure to share your news at alumni@nccu.edu.

Yours truly,

Anita B. Walton
Director
Office of Alumni Relations

1940s | 1950s

'46 BROOKLYN T. McMILLON (B.A.) was an honoree at the NCCU Alumni Association awards dinner on July 21.

'54 LILY HOLLOWAY (B.S.) of Philadelphia received the Truth and Service Award at the NCCU Alumni Association awards dinner on July 21. She is a member of the Philadelphia Chapter.

1960s | 1970s

'63 YVONNE SIMMONS PETTIS (B.S.C.), a resident of Charlotte, and a native of Raleigh, was inducted into the Zeta Phi Beta Circle of Elders in a ceremony in March. In February, she received the Order of the Longleaf Pine award from Gov. Bev. Perdue in recognition of her lifelong community service.

'67 & '73 SAMUEL T. RHOADES III (B.A. and J.D.) was named executive director of the National Association of Historically Black Colleges and Universities and will head the association's new foundation. The foundation will serve as a means of strengthening resource development capacity, supporting institutional effectiveness, assessing and improving management and performance of Title III programs, and providing student scholarships at HBCUs.

'65 GWENDOLYN F. RICKS COOPER (B.A.) of Philadelphia received the President's Award at the NCCU Alumni Association awards dinner on July 21. She is a member of the Philadelphia Chapter.

'65 LIZZIE J. HARRELL, PH.D., (B.S.) a resident of Durham and native of Shallotte, N.C., retired after 33 years of service at Duke University Medical Center in February. She was the first full-time African-American faculty member in the basic science departments at Duke.

'66 DR. HAROLD JEFFREYS III (B.A.) of Raleigh received the Alumnus of the Year award at the NCCU Alumni Association awards dinner on July 21. He is a member of the Raleigh/Wake Chapter.

'67 CLIFTON JOHNSON (B.A.) of Charlotte, who passed away in 2009, will have the old criminal court building renamed in his honor for his work as a trailblazing attorney and judge.

'67 LINDA A. PEARCE (B.A.) of Wilmington has been named chair of the Board of Trustees at University of North Carolina Wilmington. She is the first African-American to serve as chair.

'70 JAMES A. WALL SR. (B.A.) of Oxford was named state president of North Carolina AARP in March.

'71 CALVIN KEARNEY (B.A.) of Washington was installed

as vice president of the NCCU Alumni Association on July 21 for a two-year term.

'74 DR. MARVA T. DIXON (B.A.) authored a book, "The Power of 5 Ps." The book focuses on what every educator needs to know about purpose, policy, practice, people and prayer, and is intended to serve as a guide and inspiration to educators.

'75 THESSIE MITCHELL was guest author in an appearance hosted by the NCCU Department of Criminal Justice on April 17, at which he shared his autobiography, "Just One More Dance."

'76 OPHELIA E. GARMON BROWN, M.D., (B.S.) of Charlotte has been inducted into the National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame in the category of Medicine.

'76 DR. LILLIAN M. LOWERY (B.A.) of Baltimore has been named Maryland's state superintendent of schools. Dr. Lowery previously served as secretary of education for the state of Delaware.

'78 REV. DIANN GRIFFIN JACKSON (B.A.), pastor of Mt. Zion United Church of Christ in Rockingham, N.C., served as the

guest speaker for the 34th annual banquet of the Richmond County branch of the NAACP.

'79 TAMERIA B. LIPSCOMB (B.A.) of Randallstown, Md., was installed as secretary of the NCCU Alumni Association on July 21 for a two-year term.

'79 SCHYLVYER "SKY" FOSTER (M.S.) of Greenville, S.C. has been named manager of corporate communications at the Spartanburg-based BMW Manufacturing Co.

1980s | 1990s

'79 & '82 CURTIS L. DAVIS (B.A. and J.D.) a native of Whiteville, N.C., has been named HUD field office director for North Carolina.

'82, '04 & '06 CHEVELLA L. THOMAS (BBA, BBA, MIS) of Durham was installed as Treasurer of the NCCU Alumni Association on July 21 for a two-year term.

'84 & '89 FELIX L. ARMFIELD (B.A. and M.A.) of Buffalo, N.Y., has authored a book, "Eugene Kinkle Jones: The National Urban League and Black Social Work, 1910-1940." The biography focuses on Jones and his leadership in professionalizing black social work in America.

'84 MASHELL FASHION (MLS) of Hephzibah, Ga., has been appointed interim director for the East Central Georgia Regional Library System by the system's board of trustees.

'90 GINA PETTIS DEAN (B.B.A.) was presented the Business Associate Award of 2012 by The Raleigh Triangle Chapter of American Business Women's Association.

'90 CLAUDE MAYE (M.S.) of Leavenworth, Kan., has been named warden at the U.S. Penitentiary in Leavenworth.

'91 DAVID HINTON III (B.A.) was named men's head golf coach at North Carolina Central University.

'92 TOMMY McNEILL (B.B.A.) of Durham received the Pfizer Injectables 2011 Vice President's Cabinet/Vice President's Management Cabinet Award in March.

'93 A. FULTON MEACHEM (B.B.A.) of Pittsburgh, Pa., has been named CEO and president of the Charlotte Housing Authority. He was previously executive director of the Pittsburgh Housing Authority.

'94 TANIA B. DAVIS (B.S.) of Waldorf, Md., has been awarded the Inaugural Legacy of Leaders National Alumni President of the Year from the National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame Foundation. Davis was also installed as president of the NCCU Alumni Association on July 21 for a two-year term.

'94 DWAYNE C. HOUSTON (B.A.) of Washington received the Young Alumnus Award at the NCCU Alumni Association awards dinner on July 21. He is a member of Metro D.C. Chapter.



◀ The 40 Under 40 Committee in collaboration with NPHC and the Senior Class hosted an Alumni Mixer for new graduates on May 3, 2012. (Left to right) Devin Sanders '06, Renee N. Clark '06 and Gerald Taylor '12

IN MEMORIAM

'97 KEVIN D. POWELL (B.S.) has authored a book, "The Secrets of Building Wealth." The book focuses on personal finances, saving money, debt management and money management.

2000s

'05 CAROLYN PUGH (M.A.) is the principal at R.N. Harris Integrated Arts/ Core Knowledge Magnet Elementary School in Durham. The school is one of seven elementary schools in the United States to receive the 2012 National Excellence in Urban Education Award. The award also includes a monetary prize, banner and certificate.

'05 RANDE'L T. JOHNSON (B.B.A.) of Upper Marlboro, Md., recently released his breakthrough album, "At the End of The Day," featuring his hit single "Running Away." Johnson's stage name is Del Travar.

'07 SHADE' ALIS BECTON (B.A.) and **'07 SHONEKAN KHAFIL-DEEN (BBA)** of Brandywine, Md., announced their engagement. A wedding is planned for April 2013.

'07 DION TERRY (MPA) of Burlington has been named director of The Women's Resource Center of Alamance County.

'08 KATRINKA NEWMAN (M.A.), a fifth-grade math teacher at Mariam Boyd Elementary School, was named Warren County Schools' 2012-13 Teacher of the Year.

'10 CAROLYN A. MCLAIN (J.D.) of Charleston, W. Va., has joined Jackson Kelly law firm as an associate in the Environmental Practice Group.

'12 BRIANNA HARGROVE (B.A.) has been selected for the Teach for America program. To further prepare for her career, she is attending Harvard Graduate School of Education in a master's program in Education Policy and Management.

'71 DR. BETTY JEAN KING ANTIA-OBONG (B.S.) of Charleston, S.C., July 14, 2012.

VIVIAN GILES CHAMBERS, wife of Chancellor Emeritus Julius L. Chambers, of Charlotte, June 23, 2012.

BERNICE VIRGINIA DUNNINGS CHILES of Greensboro, servant leader of the NCCU Alumni Association alongside her husband Robert in local chapters of Charlotte, Winston-Salem, Durham and Greensboro, Oct. 14, 2012.

OCTAVIA SHAW, a senior, from Red Springs, N.C., March 17, 2012. She was a member of the Beta Omicron Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc.

DR. LEROY T. WALKER SR. of Durham, April 23, 2012, Chancellor Emeritus, NCCU, and President Emeritus, U.S. Olympic Committee. Dr. Walker started North Carolina College's track team, where he developed a stellar program that produced 111 All-Americans, 40 National Champions and 12 Olympians. See article, page 30.

'53 ELIZABETH BRAME BULLOCK (A.B.) of Henderson, May 11, 2012, at the age of 105, was one of NCCU's oldest graduates and the last known survivor of an African-American slave, her father having been born in 1855.

'36 CELESTE LEE JONES BORDEN (B.S.) of Philadelphia, March 30, 2012. She was 103 years old at the time of her passing, born July 27, 1908.

'47 RUTH ANNETT SPAULDING BOYD (B.S.) of Durham, March 19, 2012.

'53 INEZ REMPSON ANDERSON (BSC) of Gary, Ind., May 15, 2011.

'53 MALCOLM B. TEMPLE (B.S.) of Hyattsville, Md., Aug. 8, 2012.

'54 BARBARA THOMAS FLOOD (A.B.) of Raleigh, March 20, 2012.

'55 REESE ARLINGTON (B.S.) Massey of Philadelphia, May 22, 2012.

'55 JEANNE D. HERDON (B.S.) of New York City, April 4, 2012.

'56 ANNIE CORPENING ARMSTRONG (A.B.) of Washington, April 16, 2012.

'59 ESTELLE THORPE FREELAND BELCHER (B.A.) of Durham, March 12, 2012.

'60 PAUL WINSLOW (B.S.) of Elizabeth City, N.C., May 10, 2012. Winslow was inducted into NCCU's Alexander M. Rivera Athletic Hall of Fame in 1986 and was drafted by the Green Bay Packers of the NFL in 1960. He played on NCCU's 1956 CIAA championship team.

'63 NATHANIEL WALTER MOREHEAD (B.A.) of Bowie, Md., April 27, 2012.

'66 JAMES PRICE SR. (B.S.), Winston-Salem native and 2005 inductee into NCCU's Alexander M. Rivera Athletic Hall of Fame, July 8, 2012. He was an outstanding offensive lineman and a member of the CIAA Championship football teams of 1961 and 1963.

'66 LANGHORNE V. J. ANDERSON (B.A.) of Lynchburg, Va, May 30, 2012.

'67 PAUL PERRY (BSC) of Durham, May 11, 2012. He was head golf coach at NCCU. He played football for the university from 1962 to 1964 and was a member of the 1963 CIAA championship team.

'70 THADDEUS JEROME CHEEK (B.A.) of Louisburg, N.C., March 4, 2012.

'70 GRACE LOWE PRICE (B.S.) of Upper Marlboro, Md., April 17, 2012.

'71 CHARLETTA PATTERSON (B.A.) of Winston-Salem, Aug. 9, 2012.

'72 DR. SHIRLEY SHARROCK MELVIN (B.A.) of Fayetteville, April 30, 2012.

'75 REV. A. BERNARD MORRISON (B.S.) of Durham, April 17, 2012.

'98 MARTEZ LEVIN "TEZ" FAUCETTE (BBA) of Durham, March 6, 2012.

Kim Arrington '00

Bachelor of Arts, English
Professional Singer and Teaching Artist / Poetry, Playwriting and Music Artist-in-Residence, The ArtsCenter, Carrboro, and Durham Arts Council, Durham

Simeon Bannister '03

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science / Director of State Relations, State University of New York

Donald Barringer '02, '04 (MA)

Bachelor of Arts, Elementary Education / Interim QEP Director, Adjunct Instructor, NCCU / Adjunct Instructor, Durham Technical Community College

Saprina Brown-Taylor '99

Juris Doctorate / Founder and Principal Attorney, The Law Office of Saprina Brown Taylor, PLLC

Brian Cabarrus '97

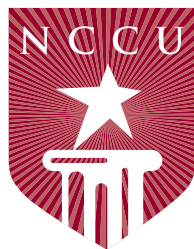
Bachelor of Science, Biology
Assistant Professor of Interventional Cardiology, Department of Cardiovascular Sciences, East Carolina University Director, Chest Pain Center, Vidant Medical Center, Greenville, N.C.

Raedene Copeland '02, '07

(MBA) Bachelor of Science, Business Management
Assistant Professor, Fashion Merchandising and Design, Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, Seattle Pacific University

Courtney Crowder '00

Bachelor of Arts, English Literature and French
Legislative Director, Office of Governor Beverly Perdue



FORTY UNDER FORTY

ALUMNI AWARDS

★ The North Carolina Central University Office of Alumni Relations honored 40 alumni at its inaugural "40 Under 40" Awards Gala on Friday, September 14. The program recognized young alumni who have made significant contributions in the arts, entertainment, healthcare, sciences, education, law, business, entrepreneurship, philanthropy, public service and government.

Shelvia Dancy '98

Bachelor of Arts, English Literature and Journalism
Reporter / Fill-in Anchor, WPTY (ABC), Memphis, Tenn.

Dalia Davies Flanagan '04

Bachelor of Arts, Mass Communication / Television Producer / Post Story Producer, Magilla Entertainment, New York City

Kenya Fairley '98

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology
Director of Programs, National Resource Center on Domestic Violence

Minnjuan Flournoy-Floyd '01

Bachelor of Sciences, Biology
University of South Carolina Postdoctoral Fellow, Institute for Partnerships to Eliminate Health Disparities

Charmaine Fuller-Cooper '02

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science
Director, Community and Multicultural Health Initiatives, American Heart Association

Ajamu Giscombe '02

Bachelor of Science, Biology
Preceptor, Marquette University School of Dentistry, Externship Program / General Dentist, DentalWorks, Southridge General Dentist, AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin

Cheryl Giscombe '98

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology
Assistant Professor (tenure-track), UNC-Chapel Hill School of Nursing

Anitra Goodman Royster '02

Juris Doctorate / Senior Associate, Alston & Bird LLP, Durham

Dedra Hines-Smallwood '02, '08 (MSIS)

Bachelor of Arts, Business Administration
Owner, Amaka's International Hair and Body Spa

Misha Johnson '02

Bachelor of Science, Chemistry
Senior Clinical Project Support Specialist, Oncology Therapeutic Delivery Unit, Quintiles, Durham

Jason Jowers '07

Bachelor of Arts, History
Assistant Principal, Hillside High School, Durham Public Schools, Durham

Kimberly Keith-Thompson '01

Bachelor of Business Administration
Contract Specialist, Environmental Protection Agency

LaMonte Leath '95

Bachelor of Business Administration
Owner, Warren Care Services, Burlington, N.C., Owner, preVision Designs, Atlanta

LeVelle Moton '96

Bachelor of Science, Recreation Administration / Head Men's Basketball Coach, NCCU

Hazel Ogugua '02

Bachelor of Science, Chemistry
Clinical Specialty Pharmacist, CarePlus / CVS Caremark, Washington

Edward Patterson '04

Bachelor of Business Administration
Area Director / Senior Vice President, Citi Bank, Chicago



Louis "Skip" Perkins '94, '98 (M.A.), '00 (MPA)

Bachelor of Arts

Director of Intercollegiate Athletics, Howard University, Washington

Carrie Richardson '03

Bachelor of Science, Nursing
Clinical Educator / Supervisor, WakeMed Hospital, Raleigh

Jossan Robinson '93

Mass Communication and Graphic Design / Visual Designer, Feld Entertainment Inc., Vienna, Va., Owner, Design1320, LLC, Washington

Tobias Rose '05

Bachelor of Arts, Computer Science and Art / Principal and Creative Director, Kompleks Creative, Durham

Crystal Simpson '01

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology
In-Game Host, Atlanta Spirit, Atlanta Hawks, In-Game Host, WNBA, Atlanta Dream Morning Show Co-Host (Murph Dawg and CJ in the Morning), Cox Media Group, Syndication

THE HONOREES (Seated, from left) Cheryl Giscombe, Tulani Thomas, Crystal Simpson, Tonya Williams, Minnjaun Flournoy-Floyd, Courtney Crowder, Tobias Rose, Jason Soper, Jamil Spain. **(Middle section)** Cornell Wright, Leroy Wray, Mary Whitfield-Williams, Carrie Richardson, Jossan Robinson, Louis "Skip" Perkins, Kenya Fairley, LeVelle Moton, Kimberly Keith-Thompson, Leonardo Williams, Charmaine Fuller-Cooper, Brian Cabarrus, Shervia Dancy, Hazel Ogugua, Donald Barringer, Jason Jowers, Edward Patterson, Ajamu Giscombe **(Back row)** Doanne Ward Williams, Misha Johnson, Saprina Brown-Taylor, Kim Arrington, Catherine Woyee-Jones, Raedene Copeland, Etienne Thomas, Quincey Tait, Anitra Goodman Royster, LaMonte Leath. **(Not Pictured)** Simeon Bannister, Dedra Hines-Smallwood, Dalia Davies Flanagan

Jason Soper '07

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science / Representative and national security policy advisor to U.S. Sen. Richard Burr

Jamil Spain '99

Bachelor of Science, Business Administration / Consultant, Renaissance Imagery

Quincey Tait '06

Bachelor of Science, Criminal Justice / Officer, Durham Police Department

Etienne Thomas '96

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science Associate Athletics Director, Senior Woman Administrator, NCCU

Tulani Thomas '98

Bachelor of Arts, Business Administration / Founder, Tutu's Green World, South Orange, N.J.

Doanne Ward Williams '07

Master of Education, Communication Disorders / Owner, Accent Modification Specialist, Carolina Speech Consultants, Raleigh
Owner/Bilingual Speech-Language Pathologist TheraPlay Bilingual Solutions, Raleigh

Mary Whitfield-Williams '96

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology; Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice / Assistant Professor, Slippery Rock University, Pa.

Tonya Williams '01

Bachelor of Arts, Middle Grade Education, Principal, Sherwood Githens Middle School, Durham

Leonardo Williams '05

Bachelor of Arts, Music
Director of Bands, Southern High School, Durham; CEO, Summer Prep Music Camps, Durham

Catherine Woyee-Jones '95

Bachelor of Arts, Public Administration / Founder/Executive Director, The HUUMAN Initiative

Leroy Wray '02, '05 (M.Ed.)

Bachelor of Arts, Elementary Education / Title I Coordinator, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, Charlotte, Founder/President, Prodigal Son Foundation

Cornell Wright '02, '05 (MPA)

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science
Agency Programs Manager, Center for Health and Healing

ALUMNI ANSWER THE CALL

BY CYNTHIA FOBERT

If our students cannot afford to attend the university, NCCU's considerable progress in recent years is in vain. That is why student scholarship support is so critical. Thankfully, NCCU alumni are answering the call and providing for the next generation of Eagles through bequests, memorials and endowments. Two alumni scholarship funds were established this year.

THE HAYWOODS TAKE A LEADERSHIP ROLE

The Marilyn Sutton-Haywood and Keith J. Haywood Endowed Scholarship Fund was created by this dynamic Charlotte couple.

Marilyn earned her Bachelor of Science in biology at NCCU in 1975 and her Ph.D. in biology from Atlanta University (now Clark Atlanta University) in 1980. After receiving her doctorate, she served as assistant professor of biology at Kennesaw State University. She later joined Johnson C. Smith University as assistant professor of biology where she was subsequently promoted to associate professor and vice president for Academic Affairs. She served as vice president for Academic Affairs and professor of biology at Bethune-Cookman University and now serves in that role at Shaw University.

Keith graduated from NCCU with a B.S. in business administration in 1977 and entered the food service industry with Gourmet Services Inc. He later served as a team member, aiding in the launching of two food service management companies before becoming a food service



Keith Haywood and Dr. Marilyn A. Sutton-Haywood

specialist with the Kellogg's/Fern International, Legout Foods subsidiary. In 1983, he joined the family food service management business, FDY, Inc., one of the largest minority-owned and operated food service management firms in the state, where he currently serves as vice president of sales and marketing.

So when it came time to announce their intention to create this endowment for their alma mater, the Haywoods had all the expertise at their fingertips to host a party for fellow alumni and friends in the hopes of encouraging them to follow their lead and support the university. More than 50 of Charlotte's best were treated to gourmet fare, including crab cakes with pineapple chipotle jam, grilled vegetables, smoked salmon, and chicken with a ginger sauce. University officials praised and thanked the Haywoods for their leadership gift, which is intended to make a difference in the lives of deserving biology and hospitality and tourism students in financial need.

"Our son Emerson is a junior at NCCU right now," said Keith Haywood. "We're fortunate to be in a position to help him, but we know that's not the case for a lot of people right now. Marilyn and I believe strongly that every student who works hard and does well in school deserves a chance for a college education."

THE GITTENS LEGACY

The Charles L. Gittens and Ruthe Hamme Gittens Scholarship Fund will provide financial aid to a student majoring in English or business. Sharon Gittens-Quick, daughter of the deceased couple, and family member Dr. Marilyn Tyler Brown worked to establish the fund in the amount of \$25,000, and name room 335 in the Farrison-Newton Communications Building in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Gittens.

Ruthe Laraine Hamme graduated from North Carolina College at Durham, as NCCU was called then, with a Bachelor of Science in commerce in 1949. She was working as an administrative assistant when she met the dashing young first lieutenant Charles Leroy Gittens. They married within a few months of meeting each other in 1950. It was Ruthe who introduced Charles to North Carolina College. She found a job on campus in the Department of Education to support her husband while he attended NCC beginning in 1952.

In 1953, she gave birth to daughter Sharon, and Ruthe became a working mother and the leading

breadwinner of her family long before it was commonplace for women to do so. Charles graduated magna cum laude in three years with a Bachelor of Arts in English and Spanish. So the genesis of the Gittens family and the Gittenses' remarkable careers was at NCCU. Charles would become the first African-American special agent of the Secret Service; the first African-American deputy assistant director of the Office of Inspection, with responsibility for all of the field offices of the United States Secret Service; and the first African-American deputy director of the Office of Special Investigations, where he worked to track down Nazi war criminals living in the United States.

Ruthe worked as an auditor for the IRS. She returned to NCC to earn a Master of Arts in Business Education and became the Equal Employment Opportunity Counselor at her Washington office.

This was an American power couple, and they were recognized as such in a 1974 issue of *Ebony* magazine. It seems only fitting that Sharon



Mrs. Sharon Gittens-Quick (right), the daughter of Charles L. Gittens and Ruthe Hamme Gittens, and family member Dr. Marilyn Tyler Brown (center)

Gittens-Quick should come back to NCCU, where it all began, to memorialize her parents.

North Carolina Central University is honored to have a classroom dedicated to Charles L. Gittens and Ruthe Hamme Gittens. And more than that, the university is so grateful for the support for our students. □



DONOR

♦ HONOR ROLL ♦

We are so grateful that you have chosen to hold fast to the spirit of Truth and Service by giving to North Carolina Central University.

NCCU's Office of Institutional Advancement recognizes NCCU's most loyal donors by listing their names in these pages, and in a more complete version online. The Donor Honor Roll presents the names of those who have provided outright gifts of cash, securities, real estate or gifts-in-kind to the university. The Chautauqua Heritage Society Members have created bequests or other types of deferred gifts to NCCU in their personal financial planning. You can become a Chautauqua Heritage Society member if you make NCCU a beneficiary in your will or life insurance policy, or create a charitable trust or gift annuity. Contact Institutional Advancement, at 919-530-6151, to see how you can leave a lasting legacy.

Included with the Donor Honor Roll are charts and graphs that reveal our progress in fundraising at NCCU across the last three fiscal years. We hope these statistics provide you with a clear picture of our diverse sources of revenue and where you might fit into the picture of philanthropy at NCCU.

Our 2012 Donor Honor Roll and listing of the Chautauqua Heritage Society include the names of those contributing between July 1, 2011, to June 30, 2012. Every effort has been made to present an accurate account. However, there still may be errors of omission. If your listing is incorrect or your name has been omitted, we apologize. Please provide the correct information by contacting the Office of Institutional Advancement at 919-530-6151.

1 MILLION AND ABOVE

Howard Hughes Medical Institute
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100K - 249,999K

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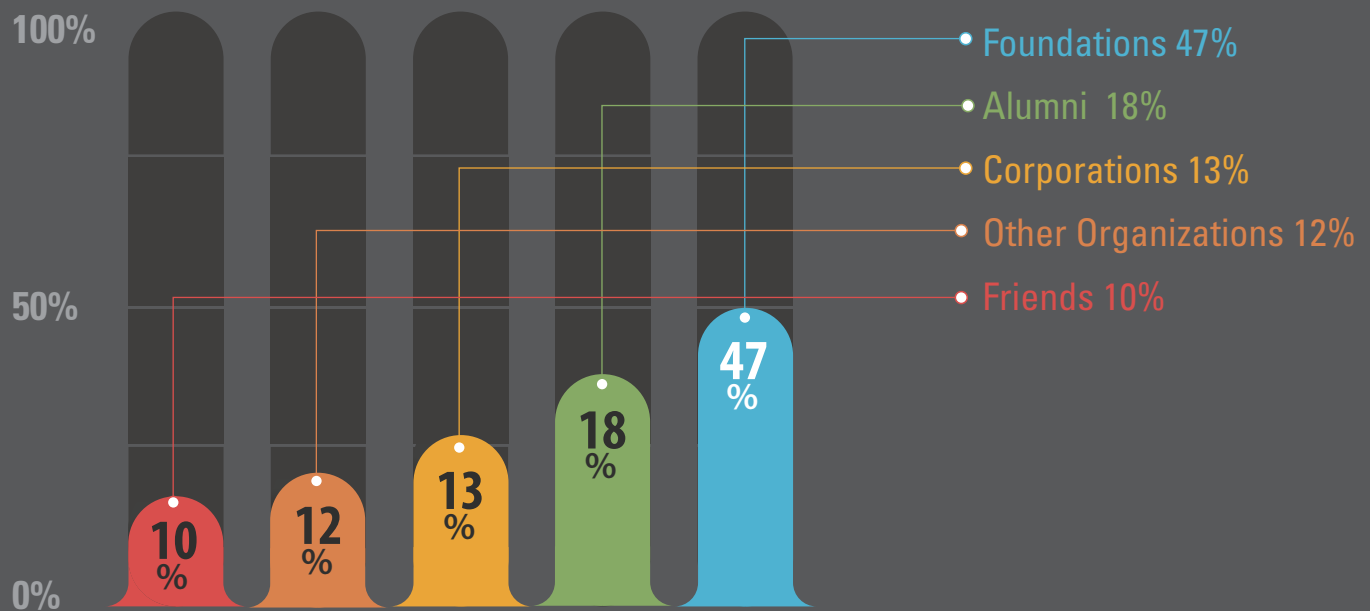
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Last updated: 8/22/2012

WHO GAVE TO NCCU IN FISCAL 2012?



FISCAL YEAR		2010	2011	2012
ENDOWMENTS				
University		\$17,199,654	\$19,282,264	\$19,991,682
Foundation		\$ 9,293,234	\$10,958,262	\$ 9,853,306
INDIVIDUAL GIVING				
Friend Donors	2,170		2,229	1,842
Friend Giving		\$ 530,863	\$ 642,438	\$ 609,152
Alumni Records	38,374		38,332	38,284
Alumni Donors	2,741		3,117	2,071
Percent of Alumni Giving	7.14%		8.13%	5.41%
Alumni Giving		\$ 1,086,700	\$ 1,841,646	\$ 1,479,778
Annual Fund Donors	992		1,157	1,122
Annual Fund Giving		\$ 243,396	\$ 340,879	\$ 344,739
TOTAL INDIVIDUAL GIVING		\$ 1,617,708	\$ 2,484,484	\$ 2,088,940
ORGANIZATION GIVING				
Corporate Giving		\$ 742,115	\$ 892,243	\$ 1,067,934
Foundation Giving		\$ 1,311,152	\$ 986,000	\$ 3,858,098
Other Giving		\$ 1,731,043	\$ 1,771,948	\$ 1,136,960
Total Organization Giving		\$ 3,784,310	\$ 3,650,191	\$ 6,062,992
TOTAL RECEIVED		\$ 5,402,018	\$ 6,134,676	\$ 8,151,932

Office of Institutional Advancement

FUNDING FOCUS IS ON STEM

BY CYNTHIA FOBERT

NCCU has received three grants totaling \$3 million this year aimed at enhancing programs to teach science, technology, mathematics and nursing. The grants are the result of a collaboration between the faculty and the university's Office of Institutional Advancement, led by Vice Chancellor Lois Deloatch.

The good news began in April with the announcement of \$1.5 million from the **North Carolina Glaxo-SmithKline Foundation** to fund student and faculty professional development and support services. In addition, the foundation is providing four years of scholarship aid for 40 students majoring in the STEM disciplines (science, technology, engineering or mathematics).

Dr. Sandra DeLauder, associate professor of chem-



istry, crafted the original proposal. Students will be assigned peer, faculty and professional mentors according to their goals and interests. They will become

members of a learning community, living and studying together in dedicated residence hall space, and will engage in professional work experiences each summer. The grant will help to fund a new staff member to coordinate this program. The staffer will establish the internship opportunities and recruit industry professionals to serve as mentors.

In June, NCCU received a \$1.4 million grant from the **Howard Hughes Medical Institute** to underwrite

undergraduate research experiences. The initiative was proposed and written by Dr. Sandra L. White, director of the Center for Science, Math and Technology Education at NCCU, and Dr. Gail Hollowell, assistant professor in NCCU's Department of Biology. The goals of the grant are to ensure high-quality training in research for our biology majors and to provide an interactive learning environment in the courses designed for our non-majors. White and Hollowell intend to enhance the scientific curiosity and critical thinking of all of our students. As the rates of retention and graduation have become the yardstick by which NCCU is measured, a research-infused curriculum will better engage students and increase their persistence. "Cross-disciplinary research is the way of the future in science," adds White. "We are determined to introduce authentic, interdisciplinary research training to our students early and as often as we can."

Finally, **Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina** contributed \$100,000 for new technology to train NCCU's nursing students and to underwrite research opportunities that will prepare them to address the chronic and acute health care needs of the citizens of the state. In appreciation for this grant, Dr. Betty Dennis, chair of the Nursing Department, intends to oversee the naming of the auditorium in the new building for this North Carolina healthcare company.

Associate Provost Bernice Duffy Johnson said, "These three grants focus energy and resources across our STEM program that, when managed cooperatively, will provide the foundation for fundamental change and progress in NCCU's science offerings, and ultimately in our students' success." □

HIGH JUMPER HITS HIGH NOTES ON SOCIAL MEDIA

BY KYLE SERBA

Jazmen Flagler's dorm room is not just where the North Carolina Central University junior crashes after a long day of psychology classes and practice as a member of the Eagles' track and field team. The space doubles as her recording studio. Flagler uses the webcam on her laptop to record herself singing, and then posts those videos to her YouTube page (www.YouTube.com/jazmensafina). She takes advantage of the popular social media platform to showcase her vocal gifts in hopes of turning something she loves to do into a career.

**STUDENT-ATHLETE
AND SINGER
SONGWRITER
JAZMEN FLAGLER
BUILDS A FOLLOW-
ING ON YOUTUBE**

So far, so good. Since her first YouTube post in November 2007, Flagler's 61 videos have drawn more than 63,000 views — and counting.

Her journey to budding internet stardom began at age 3 when she started singing in the gospel choir at her family's church, Mt. Olive A.M.E. Zion in Durham. Her parents, both singers and songwriters, nur-

tured and developed their daughter's talent. When she was 5, she performed her first solo and realized the power she held in her voice when she saw people in the audience in tears. "Wow," she recalls thinking. "I guess I'm pretty good at this."

Flagler listened to Michael Jackson and New Edition with her father, strolling around her north Durham home with



lyrics to “Candy Girl” rolling off her lips. Her mother exposed her to Sade, who became an inspiration. Nowadays, she prefers Erykah Badu, Corinne Bailey Rae, Jill Scott, Chrisette Michele, Alicia Keys and Beyonce. “The more soulful artists have influenced me,” she says. “I have a raspy voice, so they help me embrace my raspiness.”

As Flagler moved to middle school, she refined her skill by performing in school musicals, drama club and chorus. Her father purchased recording software for her while she was in sixth grade, but she didn’t fully master the computer resource until high school. During the summer before 10th grade, she recorded her first song, titled, “I’m in Love with You.” She posted the track on MySpace and it became an instant hit with her peers.

Her popularity grew with each memorable high school talent show performance, often featuring background singers and choreographed routines. Classmates voted Flagler “Most Likely to be Famous.”

At 16, brimming with confidence and encouragement by those around her, she traveled to New Jersey with her father for an audition with “American Idol.” After waiting more than 10 hours for her opportunity, Flagler belted out Jill Scott’s “Hate on Me” in front of a stadium packed with reality TV hopefuls. Proud of her performance, she anxiously awaited the decision. After a host of compliments and with her excitement building, the producer uttered those dreaded words: “You’re not what we are looking for right now.”

Devastated, she walked off the stage in tears. “I thought I was done,” she recalls. “I didn’t want to sing anymore.”

However, when Flagler returned to North Carolina, a friend comforted her by saying that it was just not God’s plan for her, and she has to make it another way.

The message reignited Flagler’s passion for singing, and she got serious about using social media as a vehicle to share her gift with the world. “I wanted people to hear me,” she says.

She posted self-made music videos and clips of high school performances to her YouTube page, created a Facebook fan page, and used Twitter to network and drive traffic to her videos.

Meanwhile, she also established herself as an accomplished track and field athlete



YouTube

www.YouTube.com/jazmensafina

“MY FOCUS IS
MAKING GOOD
MUSIC AND
DOING WHAT I
LOVE TO DO.
I WANT PEOPLE
TO APPRECIATE
WHAT I DO, THE
STORIES I TELL
AND THE HARD
WORK THAT I
PUT INTO ALL
OF THIS.”

— JAZMEN FLAGLER

at South Granville High School, where she earned all-state honors as a jumping specialist and was chosen as the conference field athlete of the year. That recognition captured the attention of NCCU track and field head coach Michael Lawson, who offered Flagler a scholarship. After careful consideration and discovering that assistant coach Marino Drake is a former Olympic high jumper, she decided to become an Eagle.

At NCCU she continues to balance her commitments as a psychology major, a student-athlete and an up-and-coming singer. She competes in the high jump and

triple jump as a sweaty, intense athlete in front of several thousand spectators in New York City, then transforms into a glamorous, soulful songstress on stage before a few thousand of her fellow students in NCCU’s McDougald-McLendon Gymnasium.

Still, she finds time to settle in to her dorm room, her musical sanctuary, to record and share her songs.

Her efforts have yielded attention across the country. She receives invitations to perform with fellow musicians, for producers and at area college homecoming concerts. She is blown away by the response and the new opportunities flowing her way thanks to her social media outreach.

Visitors to her YouTube page witness Flagler’s evolution through her teen years. She exudes confidence and comfort with her audience, often flashing her warm smile. She’s real. The variety of her appearance demonstrates growth and a fondness for change. Her voice is aged, well beyond her youthful years.

After numerous recordings of other artists’ popular music and distributing videos with her own unique spin on them, Flagler’s most recent creation is an ambitious compilation of self-written songs based on actual life experiences. The collection, entitled “The Pain of Pleasure,” features one song so touching to Flagler she breaks into tears during the recording.

She sees this project as a huge next step in her music career. While it has been easy for her to sing other people’s songs, she finds sharing her own music scary. “These are my words, my experiences, coming from my heart,” she says. “I am sensitive about my music.”

While many aspiring artists are driven by the desire to obtain fame and fortune, Flagler’s goal is more personal. “My focus is making good music and doing what I love to do,” she says. “I want people to appreciate what I do, the stories I tell and the hard work that I put into all of this.”

Her hard work produces amazing emotional and inspirational results.

“When someone tells me that the story in a song really did something for them, that’s a greater feeling than anything money can give me,” Flagler says. “Knowing that I helped someone, that’s the main thing. I want to help people. People that don’t have a voice, I want to be their voice.” □

NCCUTM

vs. NORTH CAROLINA
A&T STATE UNIVERSITY

SATURDAY
NOV 17

2 P.M. | O'KELLY-RIDDICK STADIUM



Our final home game of the year is the Big One — the Aggie–Eagle Classic. Come enjoy a splendid fall day on the NCCU campus and cheer on the Eagles as they take on traditional rival North Carolina A&T at O'Kelly–Riddick Stadium. Kickoff is at 2 p.m., and there will be plenty of festivities before and after.



FOR A LIST OF EVENTS AND TO PURCHASE TICKETS VISIT WWW.NCCUEAGLEPRIDE



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